CAPTAIN AMERICA

COMICS

NO. 65

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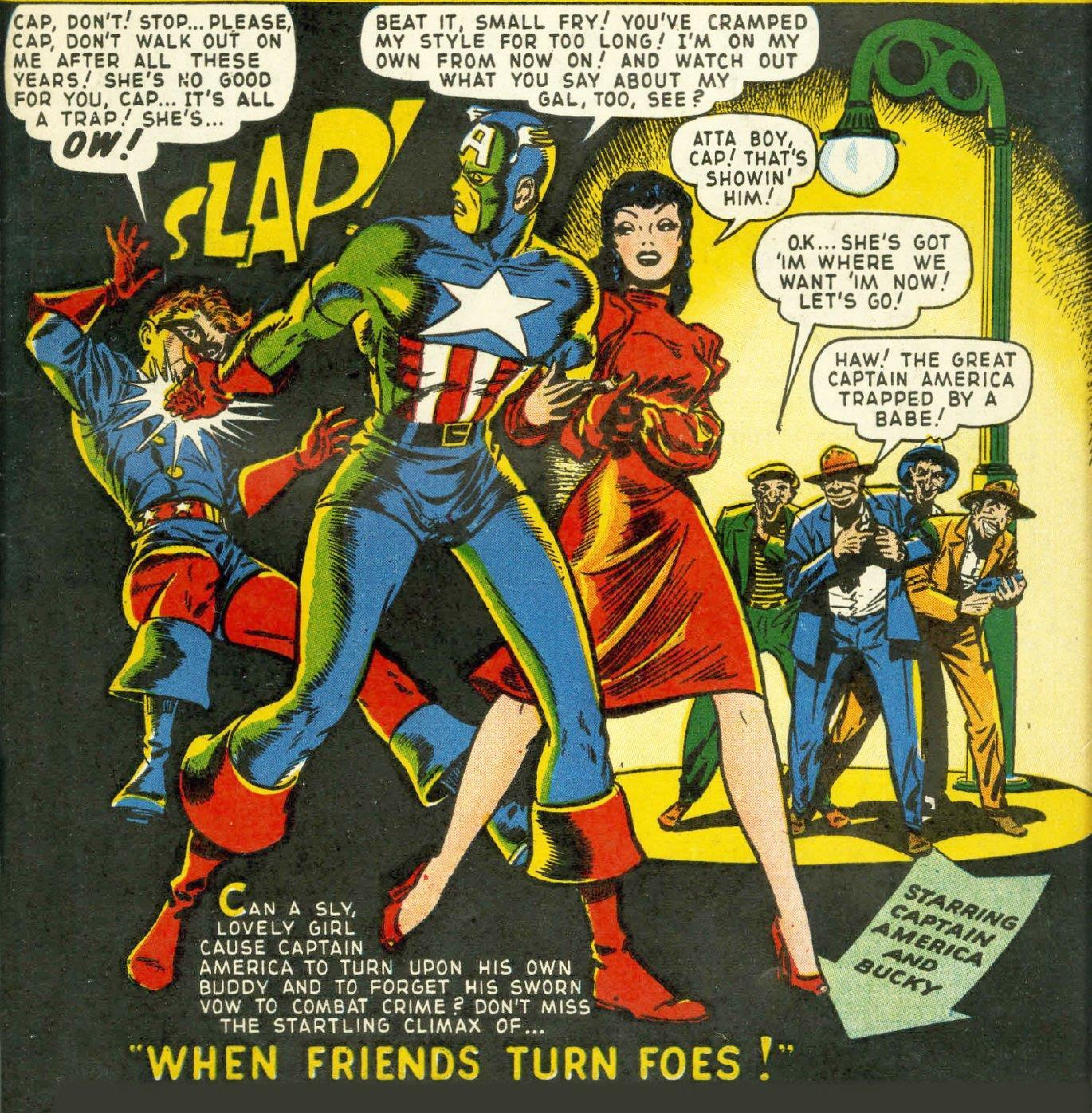
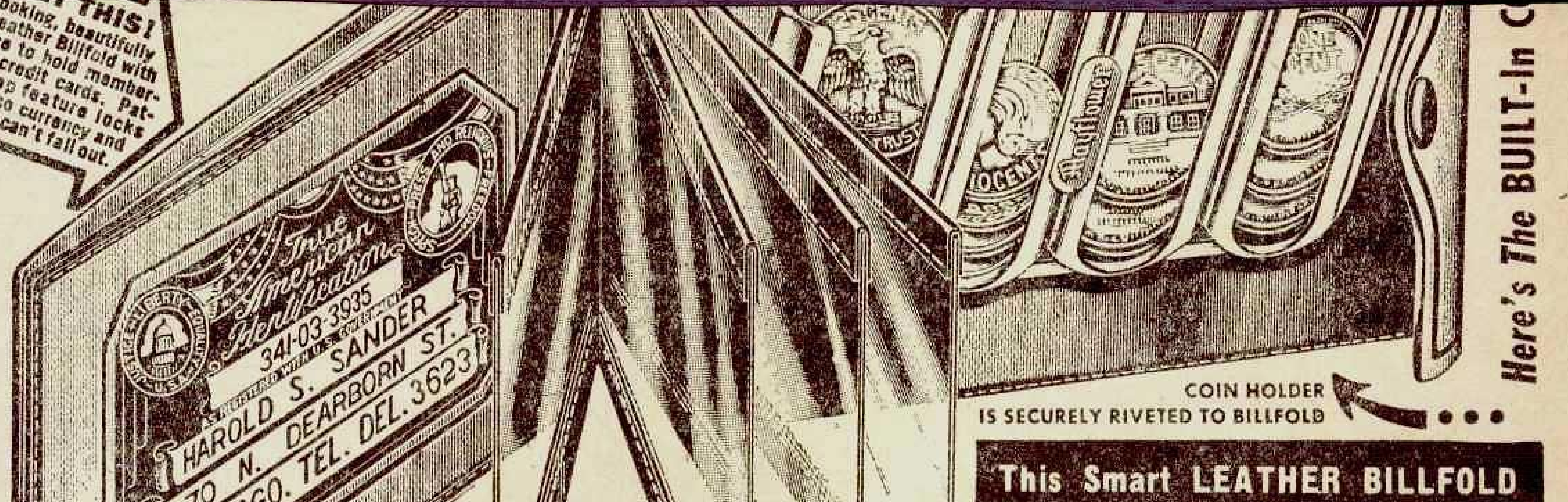

CAP, DON'T! STOP... PLEASE, CAP, DON'T WALK OUT ON ME AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! SHE'S NO GOOD FOR YOU, CAP... IT'S ALL A TRAP! SHE'S... OW!
BEAT IT, SMALL FRY! YOU'VE CRAMPED MY STYLE FOR TOO LONG! I'M ON MY OWN FROM NOW ON! AND WATCH OUT WHAT YOU SAY ABOUT MY GAL, TOO, SEE?
SLAP!
ATTA BOY, CAP! THAT'S SHOWIN' HIM!
O.K... SHE'S GOT 'IM WHERE WE WANT 'IM NOW! LET'S GO!
HAW! THE GREAT CAPTAIN AMERICA TRAPPED BY A BABE!
STARRING CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY

CAN A SLY, LOVELY GIRL CAUSE CAPTAIN AMERICA TO TURN UPON HIS OWN BUDDY AND TO FORGET HIS SWORN VOW TO COMBAT CRIME? DON'T MISS THE STARTLING CLIMAX OF...

"WHEN FRIENDS TURN FOES!"

THIS!
looking, beautifully styled Leather Billfold with Pass Case to hold membership and credit cards. Patented snap feature locks securely so currency and valuables can't fall out.



COIN HOLDER IS SECURELY RIVETED TO BILLFOLD

This Smart LEATHER BILLFOLD Comes to You Complete with
- ★ Large Built-In COIN HOLDER
- ★ A Self-Contained PASS CASE
- ★ Rabbit's Foot KEY HOLDER with Chain
- ★ An Engraved IDENTIFICATION PLATE

Your Permanent Engraved Identification and Social Security Tag

Clear-View CELLULOID PASS LEAVES

YOUR FULL NAME, Address, City and State is BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED on the 3-Color Social Security Plate!!

DeLuxe VALUE

Smart STYLING

Here's something new in a billfold. Without a doubt the handiest and greatest Billfold Bargain that you'll be likely to see for a good many years to come. Designed by skilled Billfold craftsmen and made available to our customers at a price that's sensationally low for a billfold with so many unusual features. If you have shopped around you know that it is virtually impossible to get even an ordinary type billfold which holds just currency for less than $2.00. Then take a good look at this new smart Leather Billfold and see all you get for only $1.98. Besides the spacious compartment at the back which can be used for currency, checks, papers, etc., there's a beautiful plastic Coin Holder for your loose change built right into your billfold. Then there's a built-in Pass Case with 4 pockets each protected by celluloid to prevent the soiling of your valuable membership and credit cards. We also send you a genuine Rabbit's Foot and attached Gilt Chain for your keys in addition to a specially designed 3-color Emergency Identification Plate, on which we engrave your Social Security Number, your name and your address.

Man, here's a billfold for you. Actually 4 Big Values in One. Everything you need, everything you use regularly, right where you want them. Easy to get at! Handy! Efficient! Durably made! The neatest, most complete Billfold you've ever seen. So rush your order today. If after receiving your Billfold you don't agree that this is the most outstanding bargain you ever came across, return it and we'll cheerfully refund your money

YOU GET THIS! Genuine Rabbit's Foot Key Holder with Flexible Gilt Chain in addition to the handy Coin Holder which is securely fastened to the Billfold as pictured above.

YOU GET THIS! A beautiful 3-color Emergency Identification Plate which carries your full name, address and Social Security Number. A perfect identification record for you

True American Identification
34'-03-3935
HAROLD S SANDER
510 N. DEARBORN ST
CHICAGO. TEL DEL 3623

NOTE: No C.O.D. Orders to Canada

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART
1227 Loyola Ave. Chicago 26, Ill.

SEND NO MONEY!

JUST MAIL THIS COUPON *TODAY*

RUSH THIS COUPON *for THIS* ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME BARGAIN!

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART, Dept. 9402-8
1227 Loyola Ave., Chicago 26, Ill.

☐ Please rush me the 'Smart Leather Pass Case Billfold' with Built-in Coin Holder genuine Rabbit's Foot Key Holder and engraved 3-Color Social Security Plate. On arrival I will pay postman only $1.98 plus 20% Federal Tax and few cents postage and C.O.D. charges. It is understood that if I am not positively thrilled and delighted in every way I can return the billfold within 10 days for full refund.

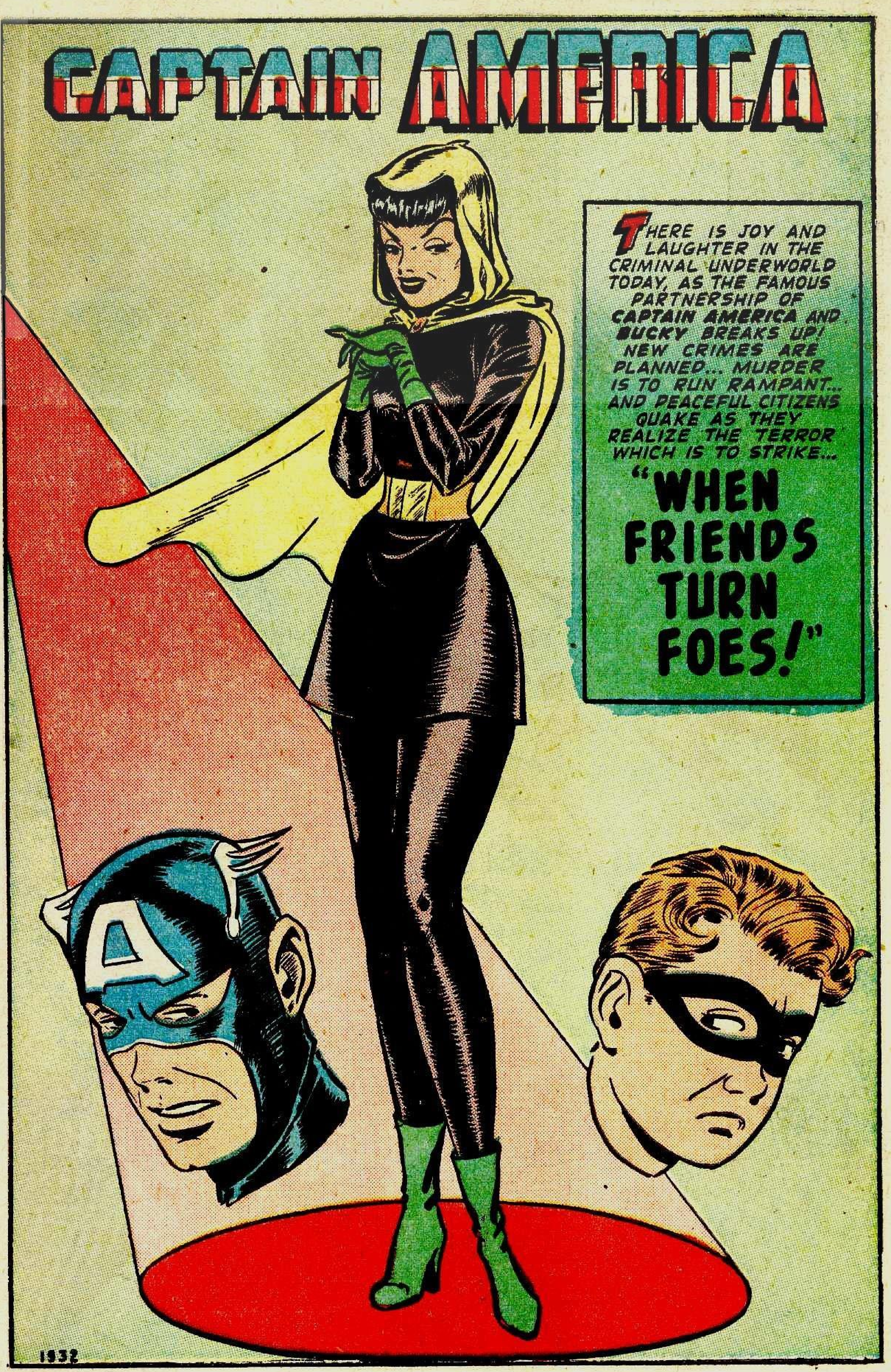
MY FULL NAME____________________
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

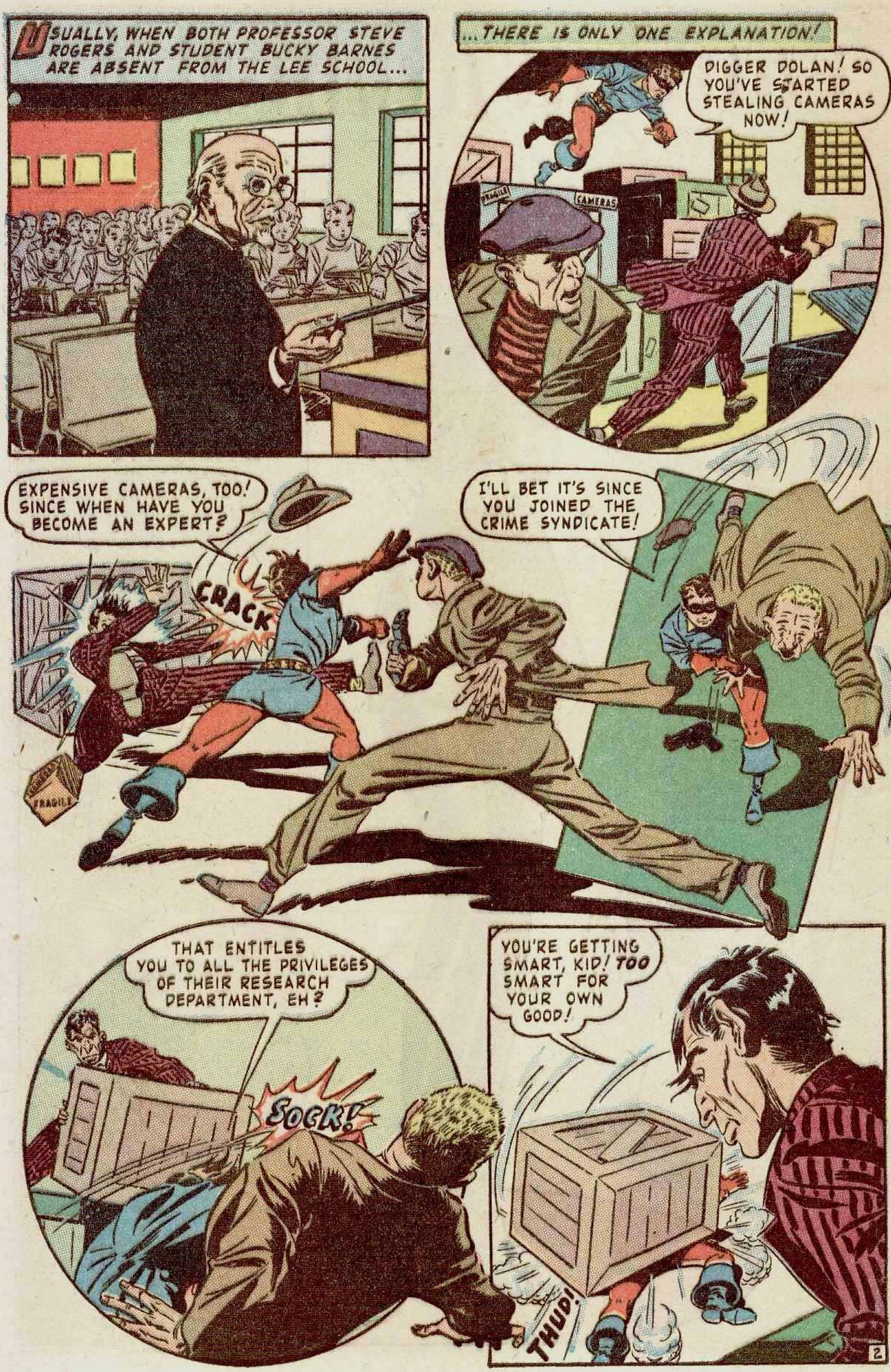
ADDRESS____________________

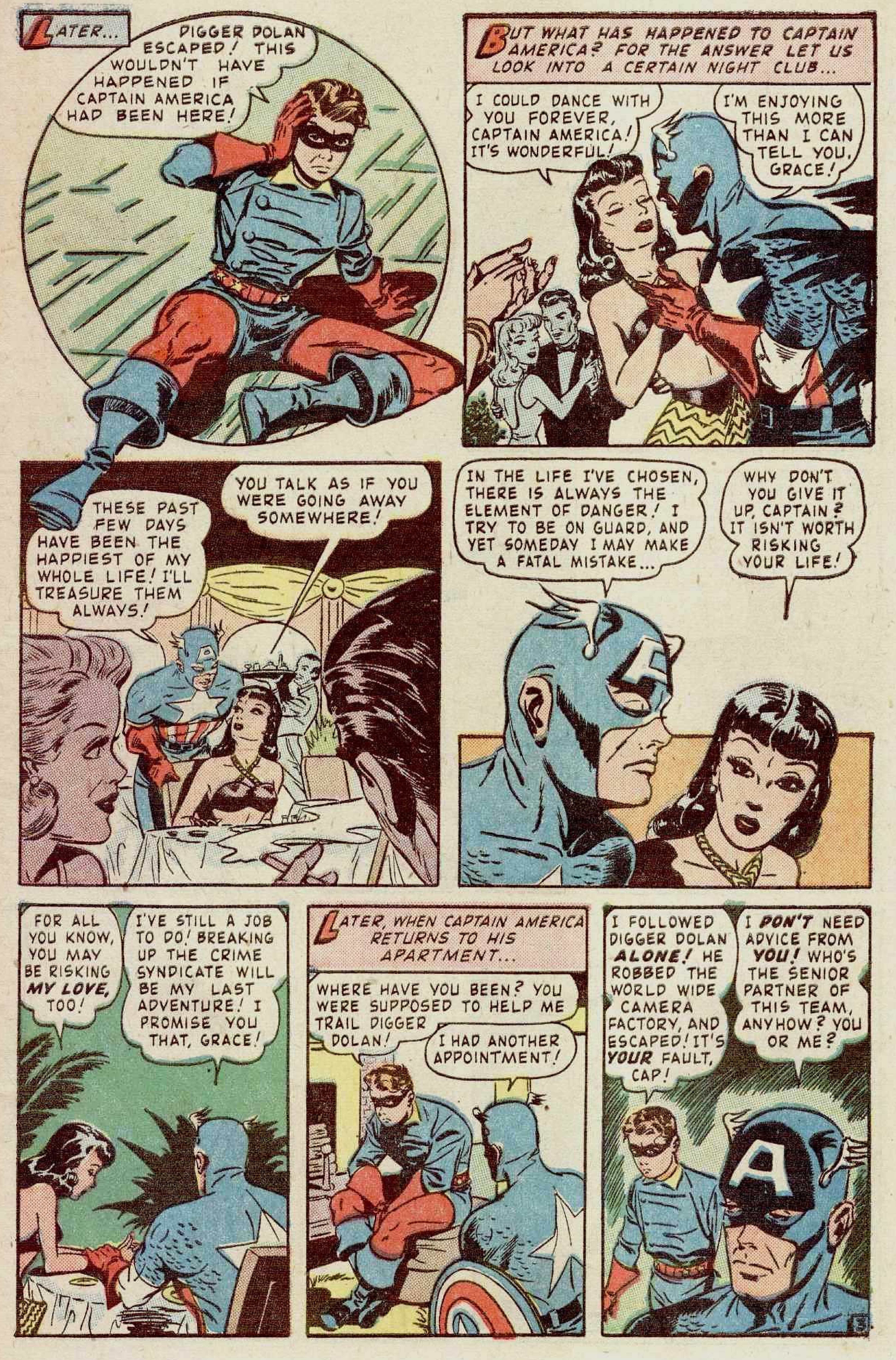
CITY________________ STATE__________

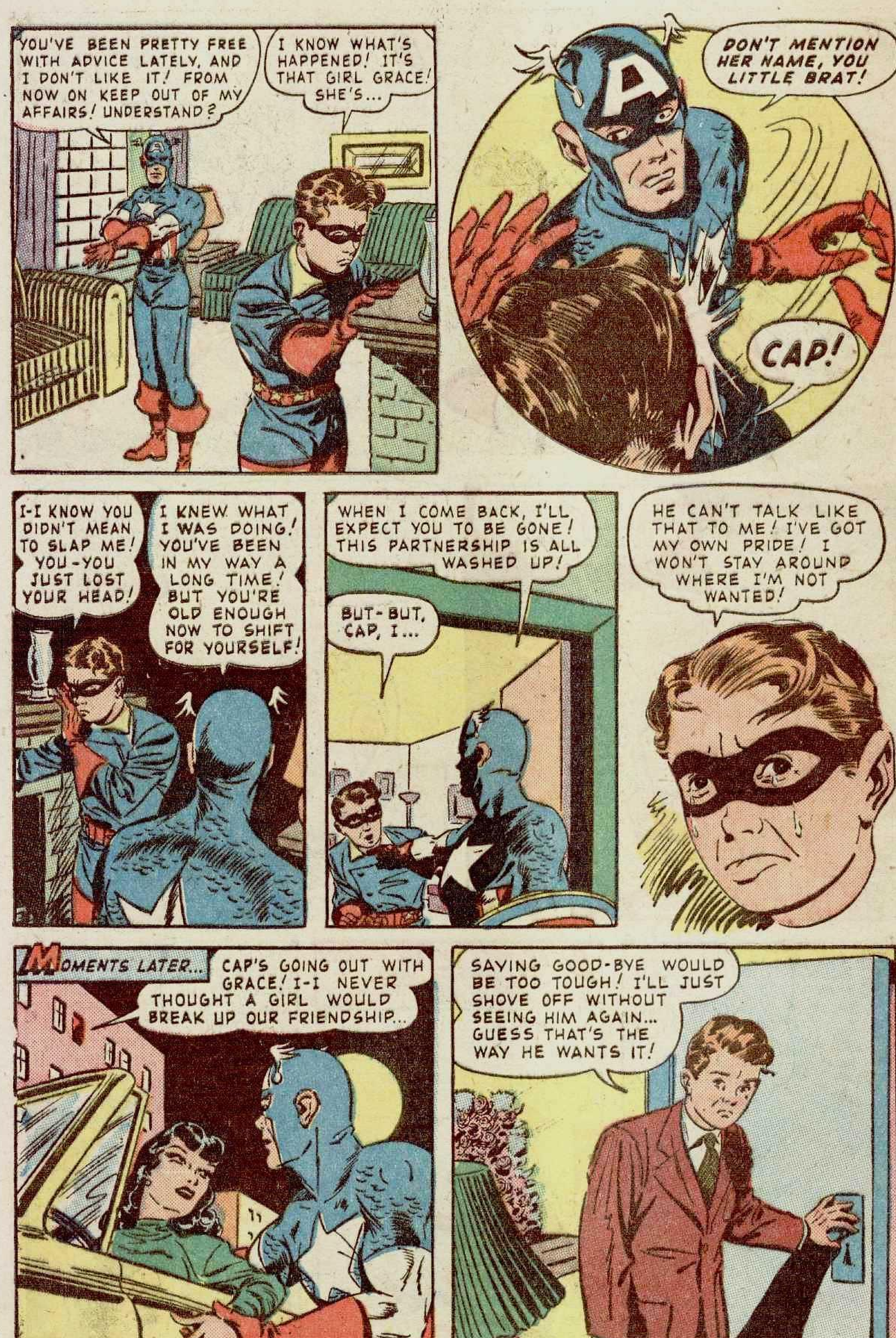
☐ To save shipping charges I am enclosing in advance $1.98 plus 20% Federal Excise tax (total $2.37). ● Social Security No.____________ Please ship my Billfold order all postage charges prepaid.

CAPTAIN AMERICA COMICS is published quarterly by COMPLETE PHOTO STORY CORP. Office of Publication: 169 Pratt Street, Meriden, Conn. Editorial Offices: 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, 1, N.Y. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Meriden, Conn., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright 1947 by COMPLETE PHOTO STORY CORP., 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, 1, N.Y. Vol. 1 No. 65, JANUARY, 1948 issue. Price $.40 per year. No similarity between any of the names, persons, characters, and/or institutions appearing in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A.

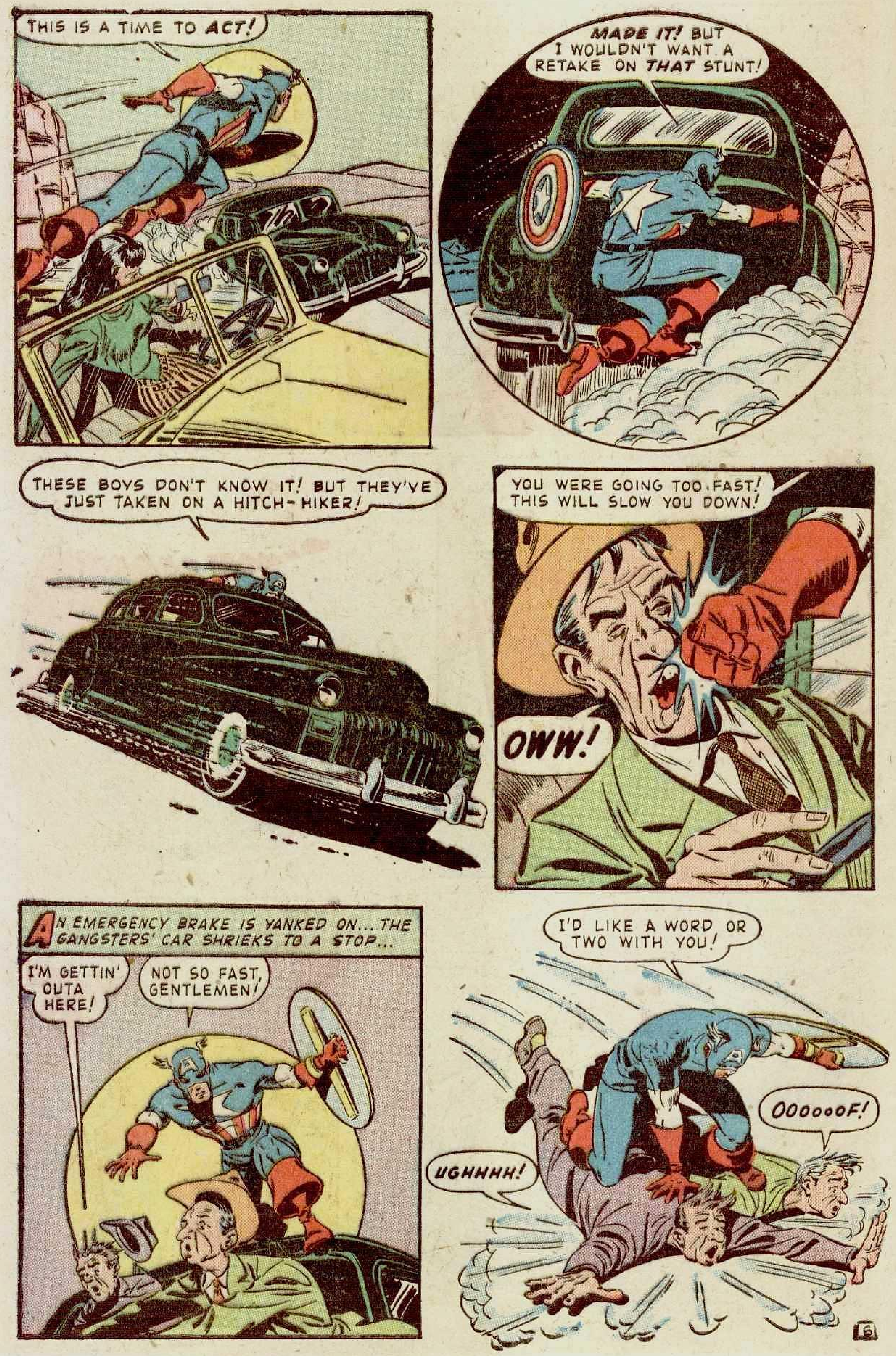

CAPTAIN AMERICA
THERE IS JOY AND LAUGHTER IN THE CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD TODAY, AS THE FAMOUS PARTNERSHIP OF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY BREAKS UP! NEW CRIMES ARE PLANNED... MURDER IS TO RUN RAMPANT... AND PEACEFUL CITIZENS QUAKE AS THEY REALIZE THE TERROR WHICH IS TO STRIKE...
"WHEN FRIENDS TURN FOES!"
1932

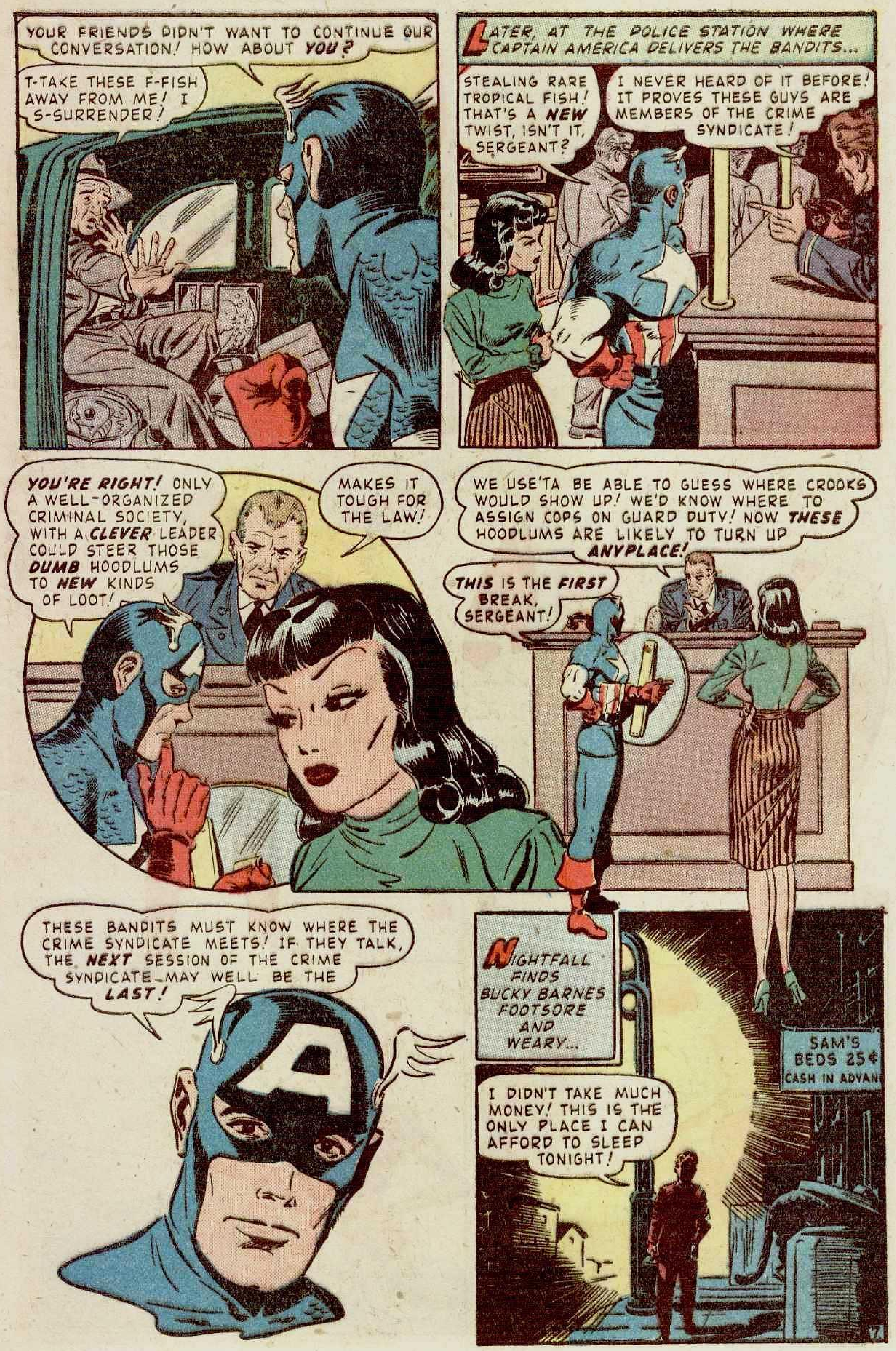

USUALLY, WHEN BOTH PROFESSOR STEVE ROGERS AND STUDENT BUCKY BARNES ARE ABSENT FROM THE LEE SCHOOL...
...THERE IS ONLY ONE EXPLANATION!
DIGGER DOLAN! SO YOU'VE STARTED STEALING CAMERAS NOW!
FRAGILE
CAMERAS
EXPENSIVE CAMERAS, TOO! SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BECOME AN EXPERT?
I'LL BET IT'S SINCE YOU JOINED THE CRIME SYNDICATE!
CRACK
FRAGILE
THAT ENTITLES YOU TO ALL THE PRIVILEGES OF THEIR RESEARCH DEPARTMENT, EH?
SOCK!
YOU'RE GETTING SMART, KID! TOO SMART FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
THUD!
2

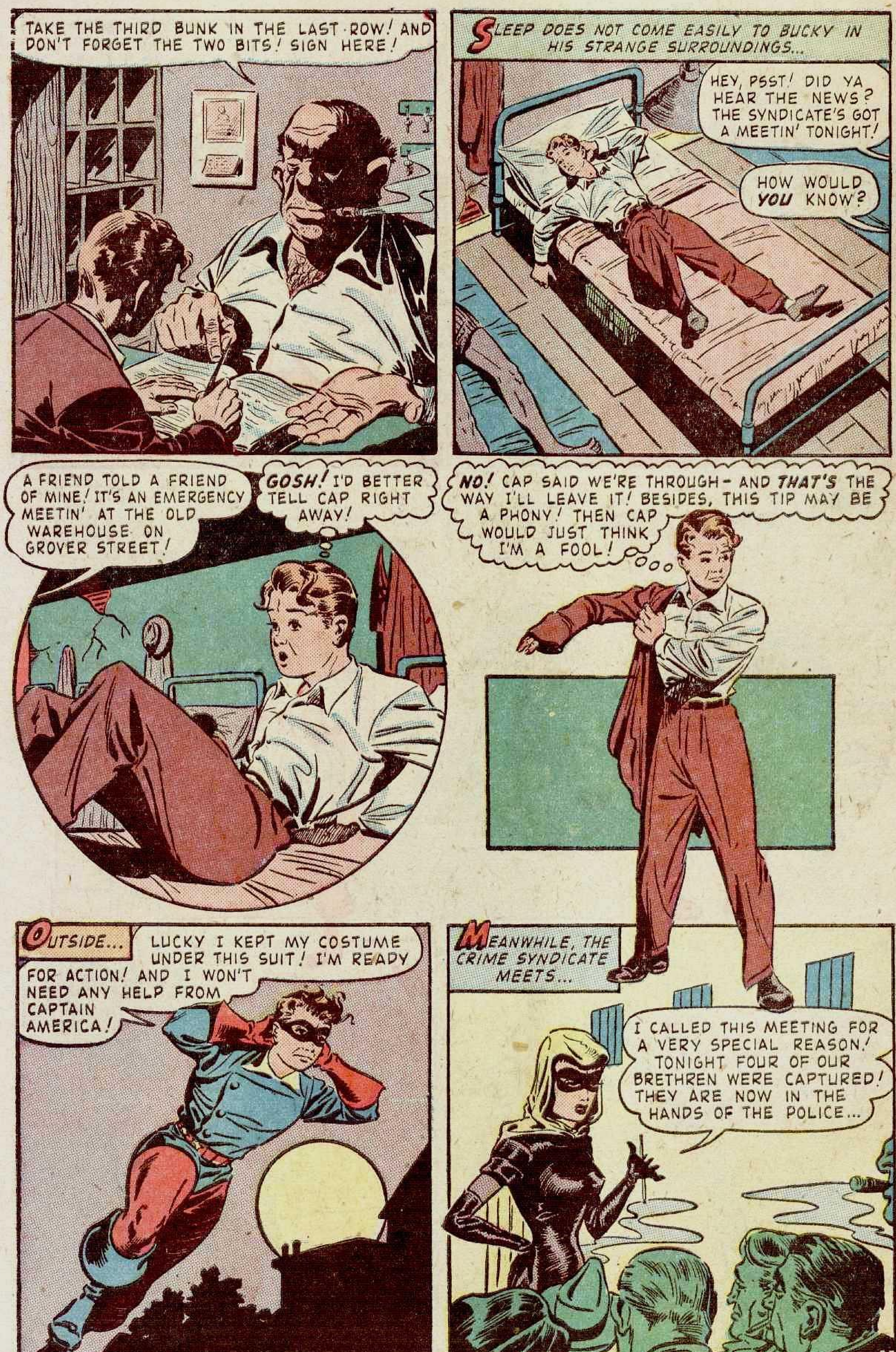

LATER...
DIGGER DOLAN ESCAPED! THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED IF CAPTAIN AMERICA HAD BEEN HERE!
BUT WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO CAPTAIN AMERICA? FOR THE ANSWER LET US LOOK INTO A CERTAIN NIGHT CLUB...
I COULD DANCE WITH YOU FOREVER, CAPTAIN AMERICA! IT'S WONDERFUL!
I'M ENJOYING THIS MORE THAN I CAN TELL YOU, GRACE!
THESE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE BEEN THE HAPPIEST OF MY WHOLE LIFE! I'LL TREASURE THEM ALWAYS!
YOU TALK AS IF YOU WERE GOING AWAY SOMEWHERE!
IN THE LIFE I'VE CHOSEN, THERE IS ALWAYS THE ELEMENT OF DANGER! I TRY TO BE ON GUARD, AND YET SOMEDAY I MAY MAKE A FATAL MISTAKE...
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT UP, CAPTAIN? IT ISN'T WORTH RISKING YOUR LIFE!
FOR ALL YOU KNOW, YOU MAY BE RISKING MY LOVE, TOO!
I'VE STILL A JOB TO DO! BREAKING UP THE CRIME SYNDICATE WILL BE MY LAST ADVENTURE! I PROMISE YOU THAT, GRACE!
LATER, WHEN CAPTAIN AMERICA RETURNS TO HIS APARTMENT...
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO HELP ME TRAIL DIGGER DOLAN!
I HAD ANOTHER APPOINTMENT!
I FOLLOWED DIGGER DOLAN ALONE! HE ROBBED THE WORLD WIDE CAMERA FACTORY, AND ESCAPED! IT'S YOUR FAULT, CAP!
I DON'T NEED ADVICE FROM YOU! WHO'S THE SENIOR PARTNER OF THIS TEAM, ANYHOW? YOU OR ME?
A
3


YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY FREE WITH ADVICE LATELY, AND I DON'T LIKE IT! FROM NOW ON KEEP OUT OF MY AFFAIRS! UNDERSTAND?
I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED! IT'S THAT GIRL GRACE! SHE'S...
DON'T MENTION HER NAME, YOU LITTLE BRAT!
CAP!
I-I KNOW YOU DIDN'T MEAN TO SLAP ME! YOU-YOU JUST LOST YOUR HEAD!
I KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING! YOU'VE BEEN IN MY WAY A LONG TIME! BUT YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH NOW TO SHIFT FOR YOURSELF!
WHEN I COME BACK, I'LL EXPECT YOU TO BE GONE! THIS PARTNERSHIP IS ALL WASHED UP!
BUT-BUT, CAP, I...
HE CAN'T TALK LIKE THAT TO ME! I'VE GOT MY OWN PRIDE! I WON'T STAY AROUND WHERE I'M NOT WANTED!
MOMENTS LATER...
CAP'S GOING OUT WITH GRACE! I-I NEVER THOUGHT A GIRL WOULD BREAK UP OUR FRIENDSHIP...
SAYING GOOD-BYE WOULD BE TOO TOUGH! I'LL JUST SHOVE OFF WITHOUT SEEING HIM AGAIN... GUESS THAT'S THE WAY HE WANTS IT!

FOR BUCKY BARNES, EVERY STREET IS CROWDED WITH MEMORIES OF HAPPIER DAYS...
THAT ROOFTOP! THAT'S WHERE CAP AND I CORNERED "GATS" MORGAN AND HIS MOB! WHAT A FIGHT THAT WAS!
AND THIS IS WHERE I SAVED CAP'S LIFE WHEN "BULLETS" BRONSON OPENED UP ON HIM WITH THAT SUB-MACHINE GUN!
IT ISN'T TRUE! I NEVER WAS IN HIS WAY! IT'S JUST THAT HE-HE DOESN'T WANT ME AROUND ANYMORE!
MEANWHILE...
WHERE SHALL WE GO TONIGHT, DEAR?
JUST A SECOND! IT'S A POLICE SHORT WAVE BROADCAST!
CALLING ALL CARS!
GRANEVER BLVD.
VA
FOUR BANDITS HELD UP THE ELYSIUM TROPICAL FISH COMPANY! THEY ESCAPED WITH FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IN RARE TROPICAL FISH! PROCEEDING NORTH ON GRANEVER BOULEVARD!
THE BANDIT'S CAR IS HEADED THIS WAY! WE'VE GOT TO HEAD THEM OFF!
DON'T BE SILLY! WHY SHOULD WE RISK...?
HERE THEY COME! SORRY, BUT THIS IS NO TIME TO ARGUE!
SCREEECH!
LOOK OUT!


THIS IS A TIME TO *ACT!*
MADE IT! BUT I WOULDN'T WANT A RETAKE ON *THAT* STUNT!
THESE BOYS DON'T KNOW IT! BUT THEY'VE JUST TAKEN ON A HITCH-HIKER!
YOU WERE GOING TOO FAST! THIS WILL SLOW YOU DOWN!
OWW!
AN EMERGENCY BRAKE IS YANKED ON... THE GANGSTERS' CAR SHRIEKS TO A STOP...
I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE!
NOT SO FAST, GENTLEMEN!
I'D LIKE A WORD OR TWO WITH YOU!
OOOooOF!
UGHHHH!

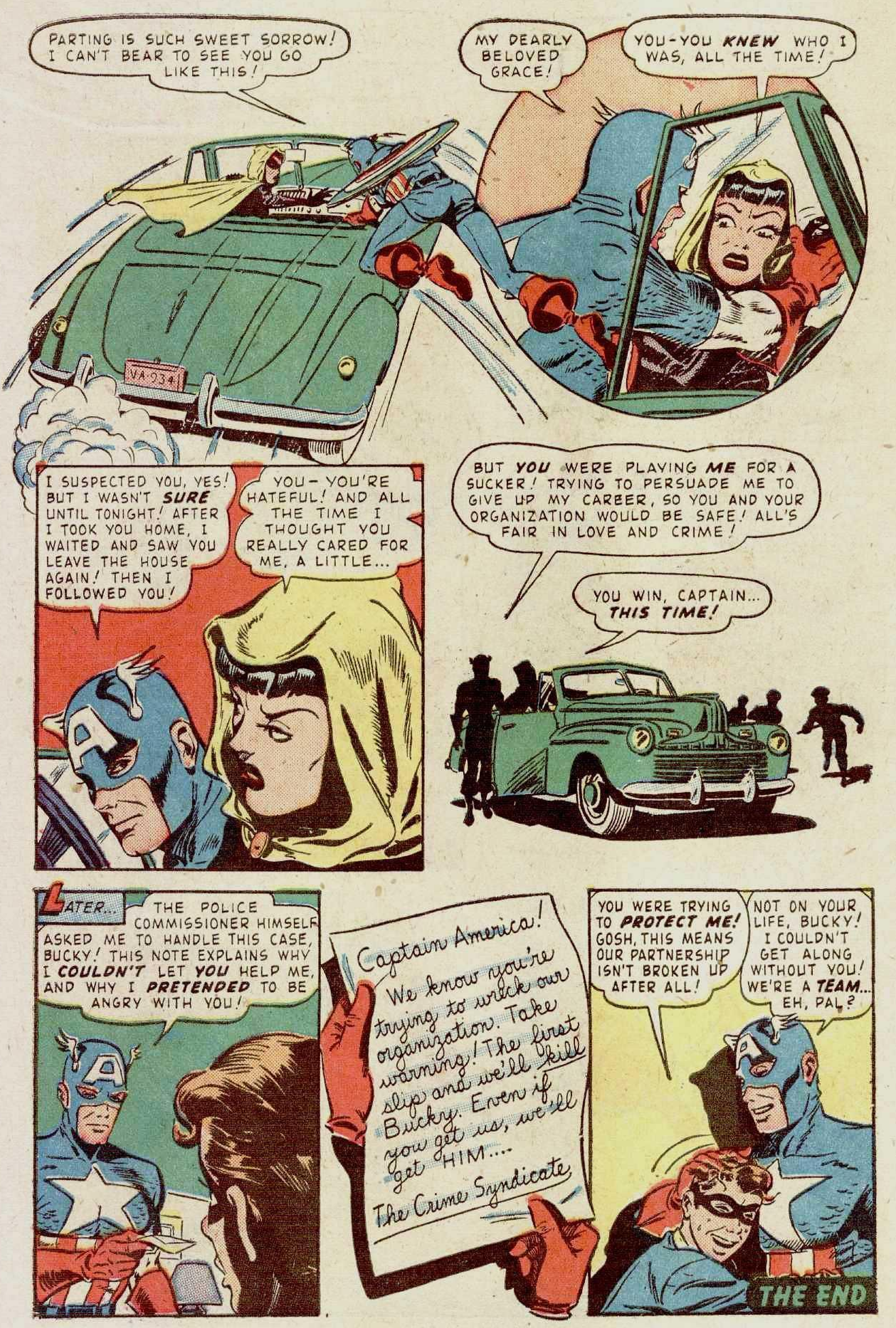

YOUR FRIENDS DIDN'T WANT TO CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION! HOW ABOUT *YOU*?
T-TAKE THESE F-FISH AWAY FROM ME! I S-SURRENDER!
LATER, AT THE POLICE STATION WHERE CAPTAIN AMERICA DELIVERS THE BANDITS...
STEALING RARE TROPICAL FISH! THAT'S A *NEW* TWIST, ISN'T IT, SERGEANT?
I NEVER HEARD OF IT BEFORE! IT PROVES THESE GUYS ARE MEMBERS OF THE CRIME SYNDICATE!
YOU'RE RIGHT! ONLY A WELL-ORGANIZED CRIMINAL SOCIETY, WITH A *CLEVER* LEADER COULD STEER THOSE *DUMB* HOODLUMS TO *NEW* KINDS OF LOOT!
MAKES IT TOUGH FOR THE LAW!
WE USE'TA BE ABLE TO GUESS WHERE CROOKS WOULD SHOW UP! WE'D KNOW WHERE TO ASSIGN COPS ON GUARD DUTY! NOW *THESE* HOODLUMS ARE LIKELY TO TURN UP *ANYPLACE!*
THIS IS THE *FIRST* BREAK, SERGEANT!
THESE BANDITS MUST KNOW WHERE THE CRIME SYNDICATE MEETS! IF THEY TALK, THE *NEXT* SESSION OF THE CRIME SYNDICATE MAY WELL BE THE *LAST*!
NIGHTFALL FINDS BUCKY BARNES FOOTSORE AND WEARY...
SAM'S BEDS 25¢ CASH IN ADVAN
I DIDN'T TAKE MUCH MONEY! THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE I CAN AFFORD TO SLEEP TONIGHT!


TAKE THE THIRD BUNK IN THE LAST ROW! AND DON'T FORGET THE TWO BITS! SIGN HERE!
SLEEP DOES NOT COME EASILY TO BUCKY IN HIS STRANGE SURROUNDINGS...
HEY, PSST! DID YA HEAR THE NEWS? THE SYNDICATE'S GOT A MEETIN' TONIGHT!
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW?
A FRIEND TOLD A FRIEND OF MINE! IT'S AN EMERGENCY MEETIN' AT THE OLD WAREHOUSE ON GROVER STREET!
GOSH! I'D BETTER TELL CAP RIGHT AWAY!
NO! CAP SAID WE'RE THROUGH - AND THAT'S THE WAY I'LL LEAVE IT! BESIDES, THIS TIP MAY BE A PHONY! THEN CAP WOULD JUST THINK I'M A FOOL!
OUTSIDE...
LUCKY I KEPT MY COSTUME UNDER THIS SUIT! I'M READY FOR ACTION! AND I WON'T NEED ANY HELP FROM CAPTAIN AMERICA!
MEANWHILE, THE CRIME SYNDICATE MEETS...
I CALLED THIS MEETING FOR A VERY SPECIAL REASON! TONIGHT FOUR OF OUR BRETHREN WERE CAPTURED! THEY ARE NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE POLICE...

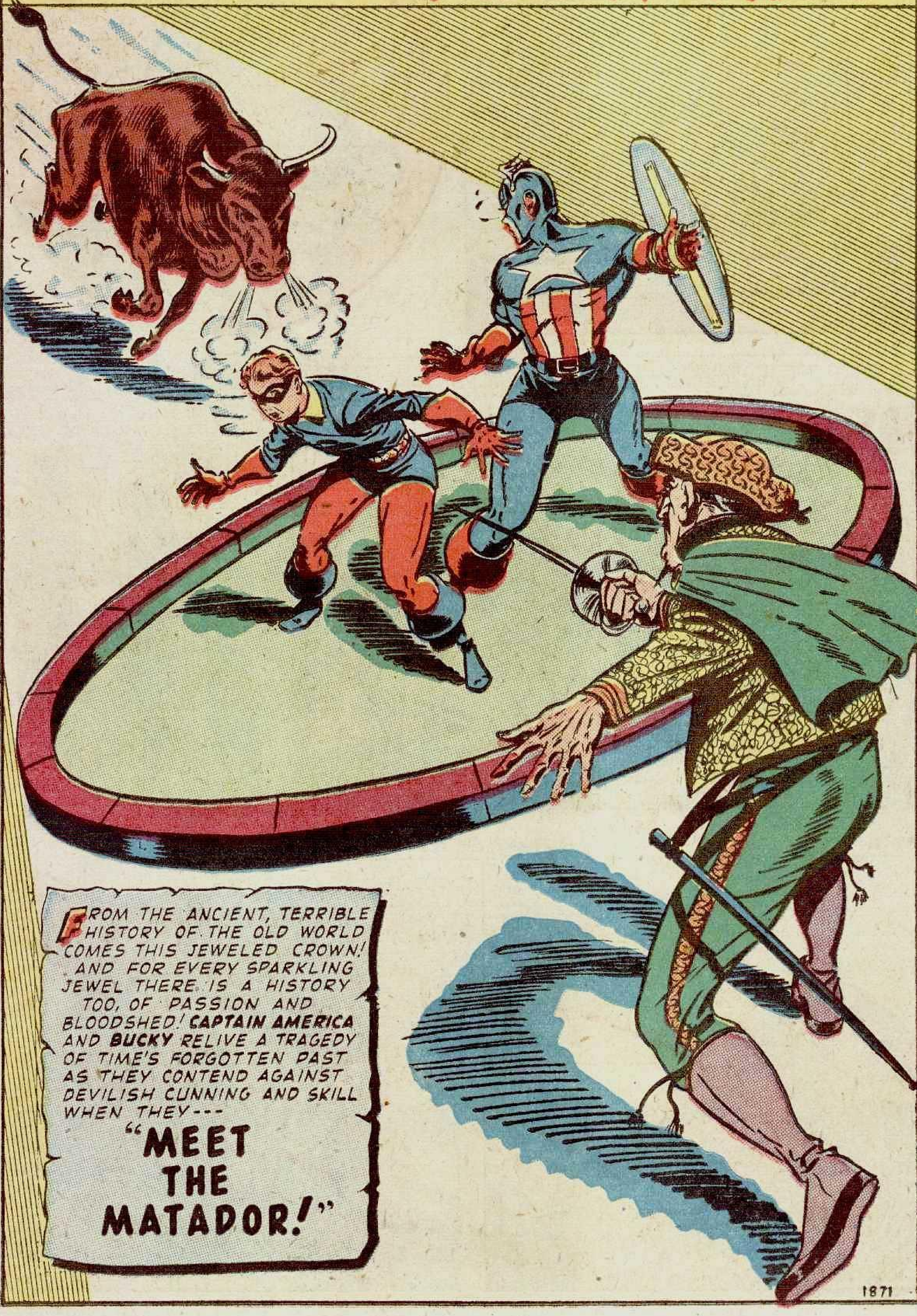
IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CHANGE OUR PASSWORD, AND TO FIND A NEW MEETING PLACE! EVERY PRECAUTION MUST BE TAKEN TO SAFEGUARD OUR SECRETS FROM THE POLICE!
IT'S THE CRIME SYNDICATE, ALL RIGHT! TOO MANY FOR ME TO HANDLE! I'D BETTER...
OH-OH! LUCKY FOR ME I SAW YOUR SHADOW ON THE WALL!
!!@+?+!?
OOOOOF!
YOU'RE NOT MUCH COMPETITION, PAL!
I THOUGHT THIS WAS GOING TO BE A PRIVATE PARTY!
IF ONLY CAP WERE HERE!
WHAMM!

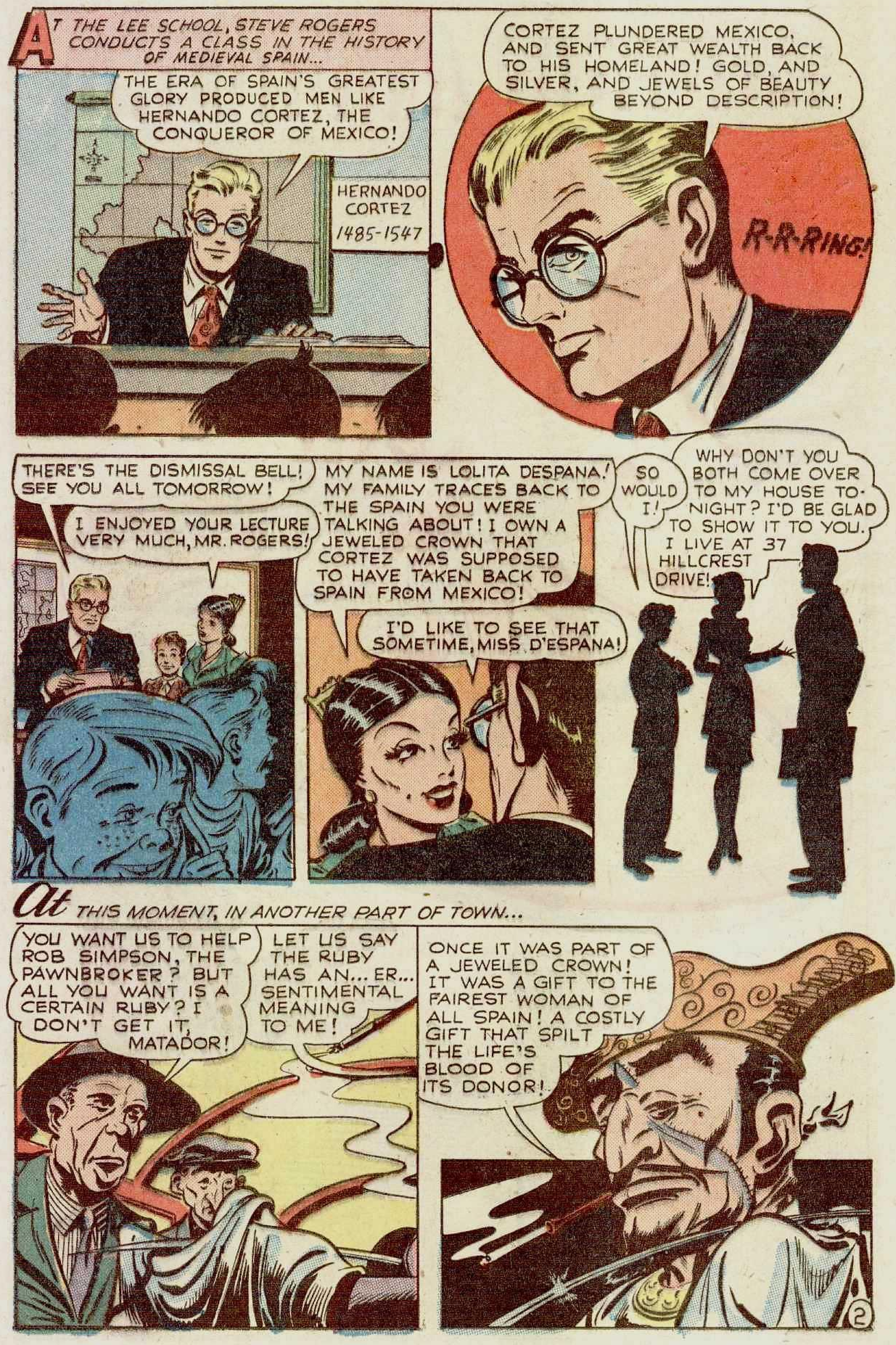
THERE'S ONE TOO MANY FOR YOU TO HANDLE!
OHHH!
THUD!
MOMENTS LATER, INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE...
WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM, CHIEF?
I HOPED THAT WE MIGHT AVOID BLOODSHED! BUT HE KNOWS TOO MUCH TO LIVE! YET I AM MERCIFUL!
NOT FOR HIM THE TORTURE OF SLOW DEATH! IT SHALL BE QUICK AND CLEAN! ONE BULLET AND IT IS ALL OVER!
I WOULDN'T PULL THAT TRIGGER, IF I WERE YOU!
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
IN ANOTHER MINUTE THE POLICE WILL BE SWARMING AROUND HERE LIKE A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS! I SENT FOR THEM AS SOON AS I LOCATED THIS HIDEOUT! THE CRIME SYNDICATE IS ALL WASHED UP!
AND SO ARE YOU!
I'LL KILL YOU!

COME ON, BUCKY! LET'S GO!
RIGHT, CAP!
YAHOO!
BAM!
SOCK!
THE DEVILS! I MUST ESCAPE THEM!
THE LAST REDSKIN BIT THE DUST, AND HERE COMES THE CAVALRY! SHOW THEM WHERE TO FIND THE BODIES, BUCKY!
I'VE ANOTHER JOB TO DO!
JUST IN TIME! THE LEADER'S TRYING FOR A GETAWAY!

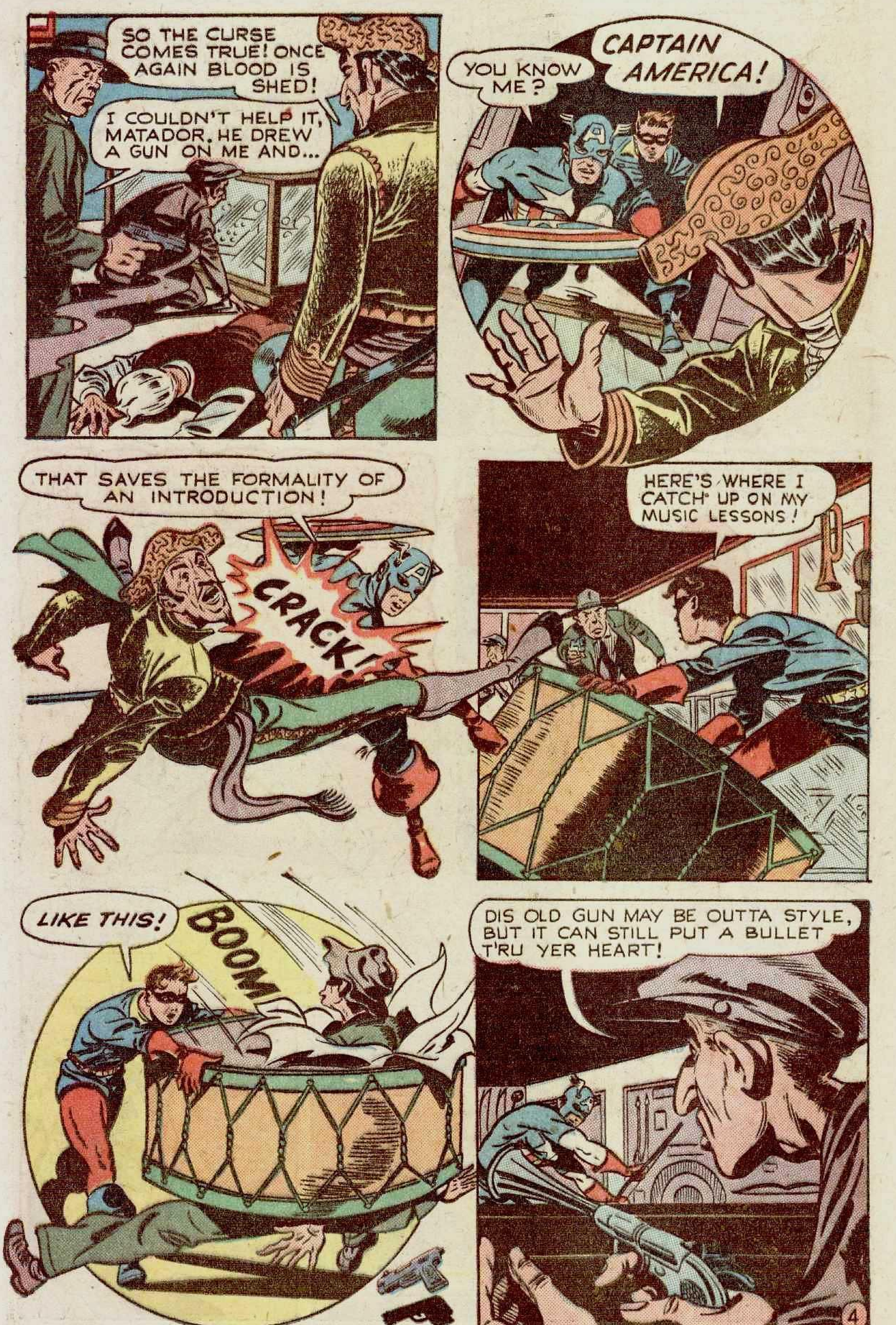

PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW! I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE YOU GO LIKE THIS!
MY DEARLY BELOVED GRACE!
YOU-YOU KNEW WHO I WAS, ALL THE TIME!
VA 9341
I SUSPECTED YOU, YES! BUT I WASN'T SURE UNTIL TONIGHT! AFTER I TOOK YOU HOME, I WAITED AND SAW YOU LEAVE THE HOUSE AGAIN! THEN I FOLLOWED YOU!
YOU- YOU'RE HATEFUL! AND ALL THE TIME I THOUGHT YOU REALLY CARED FOR ME, A LITTLE...
BUT YOU WERE PLAYING ME FOR A SUCKER! TRYING TO PERSUADE ME TO GIVE UP MY CAREER, SO YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION WOULD BE SAFE! ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND CRIME!
YOU WIN, CAPTAIN... THIS TIME!
LATER.. THE POLICE COMMISSIONER HIMSELF ASKED ME TO HANDLE THIS CASE, BUCKY! THIS NOTE EXPLAINS WHY I COULDN'T LET YOU HELP ME, AND WHY I PRETENDED TO BE ANGRY WITH YOU!
Captain America! We know you're trying to wreck our organization. Take warning! The first slip and we'll kill Bucky. Even if you get us, we'll get HIM.... The Crime Syndicate
YOU WERE TRYING TO PROTECT ME! GOSH, THIS MEANS OUR PARTNERSHIP ISN'T BROKEN UP AFTER ALL!
NOT ON YOUR LIFE, BUCKY! I COULDN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT YOU! WE'RE A TEAM... EH, PAL?
THE END

CAPTAIN AMERICA


FROM THE ANCIENT, TERRIBLE HISTORY OF THE OLD WORLD COMES THIS JEWELED CROWN! AND FOR EVERY SPARKLING JEWEL THERE IS A HISTORY TOO, OF PASSION AND BLOODSHED! CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY RELIVE A TRAGEDY OF TIME'S FORGOTTEN PAST AS THEY CONTEND AGAINST DEVILISH CUNNING AND SKILL WHEN THEY---
"MEET THE MATADOR!"
1871


AT THE LEE SCHOOL, STEVE ROGERS CONDUCTS A CLASS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL SPAIN...
THE ERA OF SPAIN'S GREATEST GLORY PRODUCED MEN LIKE HERNANDO CORTEZ, THE CONQUEROR OF MEXICO!
HERNANDO CORTEZ
1485-1547
CORTEZ PLUNDERED MEXICO, AND SENT GREAT WEALTH BACK TO HIS HOMELAND! GOLD, AND SILVER, AND JEWELS OF BEAUTY BEYOND DESCRIPTION!
R-R-RING!
THERE'S THE DISMISSAL BELL! SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW!
I ENJOYED YOUR LECTURE VERY MUCH, MR. ROGERS!
MY NAME IS LOLITA DESPANA! MY FAMILY TRACES BACK TO THE SPAIN YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT! I OWN A JEWELED CROWN THAT CORTEZ WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE TAKEN BACK TO SPAIN FROM MEXICO!
I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT SOMETIME, MISS D'ESPANA!
SO WOULD I!
WHY DON'T YOU BOTH COME OVER TO MY HOUSE TO-NIGHT? I'D BE GLAD TO SHOW IT TO YOU. I LIVE AT 37 HILLCREST DRIVE!
At THIS MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN...
YOU WANT US TO HELP ROB SIMPSON, THE PAWNBROKER? BUT ALL YOU WANT IS A CERTAIN RUBY? I DON'T GET IT, MATADOR!
LET US SAY THE RUBY HAS AN... ER... SENTIMENTAL MEANING TO ME!
ONCE IT WAS PART OF A JEWELED CROWN! IT WAS A GIFT TO THE FAIREST WOMAN OF ALL SPAIN! A COSTLY GIFT THAT SPILT THE LIFE'S BLOOD OF ITS DONOR!

"I AM THE DESCENDANT OF THE MAN WHO LOVINGLY PLACED THE CROWN UPON THE HEAD OF HIS ADORED ONE! HE WAS A MATADOR TOO, THE GREATEST IN ALL SPAIN...
"THE CROWN WAS A GIFT FROM HIS MAJESTY, WHO HAD RECEIVED IT FROM CORTEZ HIMSELF! THE FOOL GAVE IT AWAY AND HIS HEART WENT WITH IT!
"YET SHE BETRAYED HIM, AND HE DIED DEFENDING THE HONOR OF HIS HOUSE!
"THEY SAY HE CURSED HER WITH HIS DYING BREATH, AND VOWED THAT THE CROWN OF CORTEZ WOULD BRING NOTHING BUT BLOODSHED—AND SO INDEED IT CAME TO PASS!"
TWO JEWELS OF CORTEZ' CROWN WERE SOLD! I KNOW THEIR WHEREABOUTS! LET US HOPE IT WILL NOT COST BLOOD TO RECOVER THEM! FOR I SHALL RECOVER THEM—WHATEVER THE COST!
Later, AS STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO VISIT LOLITA D'ESPANA...
BUCKY! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
BANG!
A SHOT!
WE'LL INVESTIGATE AS CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!

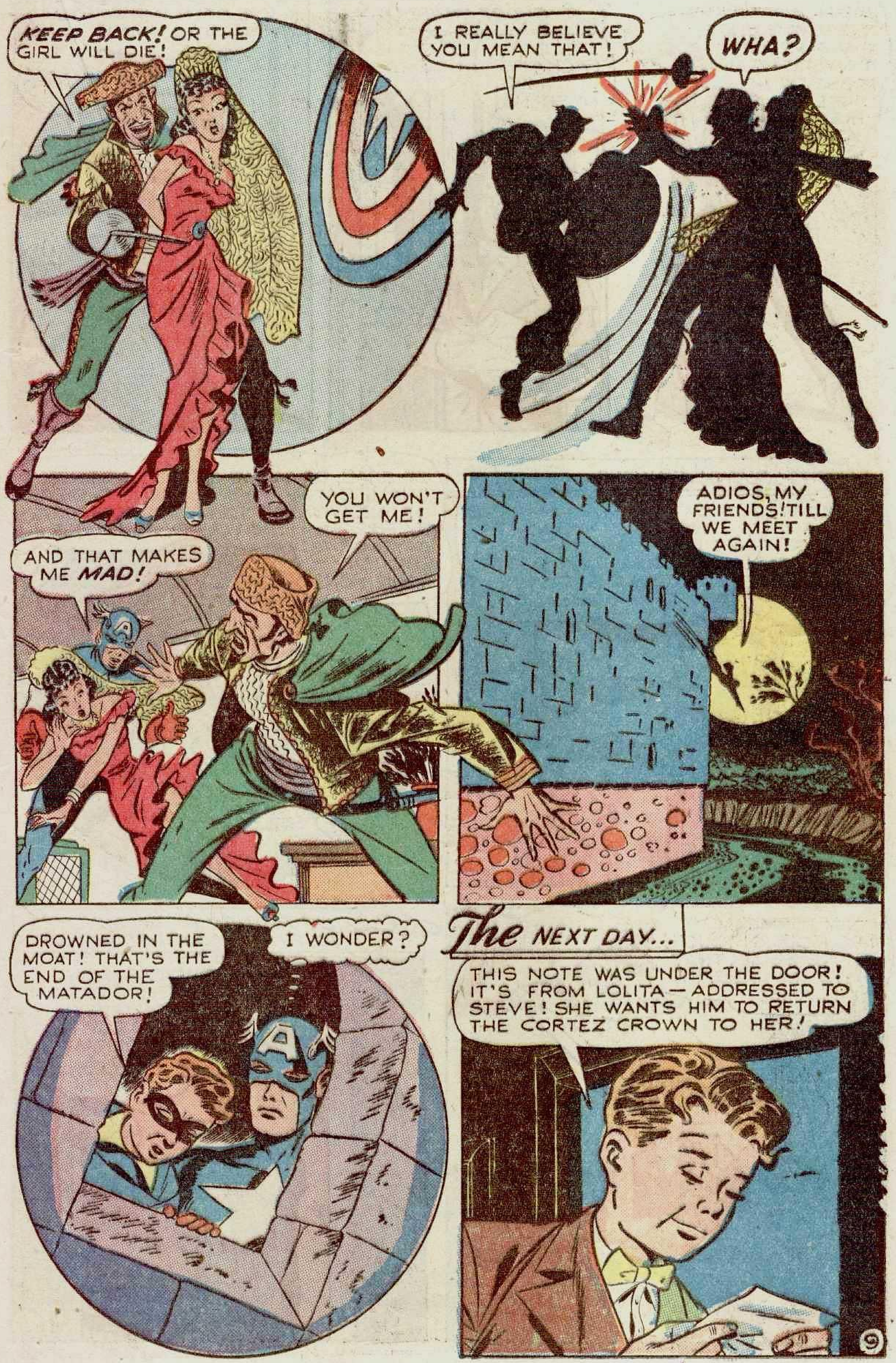

SO THE CURSE COMES TRUE! ONCE AGAIN BLOOD IS SHED!
I COULDN'T HELP IT, MATADOR. HE DREW A GUN ON ME AND...
YOU KNOW ME?
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
THAT SAVES THE FORMALITY OF AN INTRODUCTION!
CRACK!
HERE'S WHERE I CATCH UP ON MY MUSIC LESSONS!
LIKE THIS!
BOOM!
DIS OLD GUN MAY BE OUTTA STYLE, BUT IT CAN STILL PUT A BULLET T'RU YER HEART!

SOMETIMES THE HAND IS QUICKER THAN THE TRIGGER!
OWWW!
ZING!
THE MATADOR COMES PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES! THIS VIAL WILL SERVE MY PURPOSE VERY WELL!
IT RELEASES A CLOUD OF NARCOTIC GAS! PLEASANT DREAMS, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
GASP!
CHOKE!
MOMENTS LATER...
I FOUND THE JEWEL I SEEK! LET US DELAY NO LONGER!
LUCKY WE DIDN'T GET A FULL WHIFF OF DAT GAS! I'M STILL DIZZY FROM IT!
SIMPSON'S
ARE YOU OKAY, CAP?
OOOHH! THIS THING I USE FOR A HEAD! WE'D BETTER CHECK UP ON WHAT THE MATADOR STOLE!
THE TRAIL LEADS DIRECTLY TO THE HOME OF LOLITA D'ESPANA...
...AND THE MATADOR STOLE NOTHING BUT A SINGLE LARGE RUBY! ACCORDING TO THE PAWNBROKER'S RECORDS, YOU BROUGHT IT TO HIS SHOP, MISS D'ESPANA!
THAT'S RIGHT! I DID!

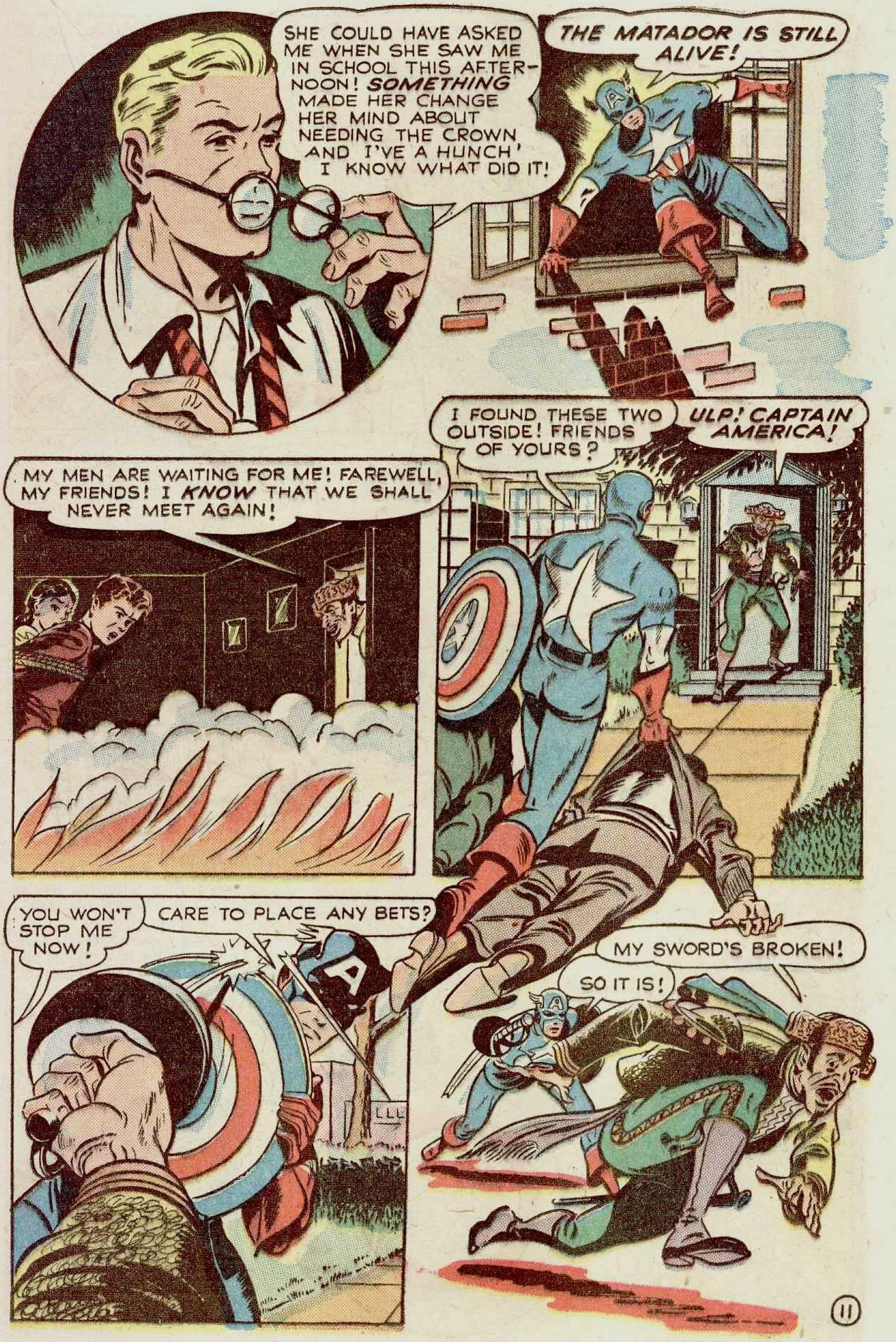
THE RUBY WAS PART OF THE CORTEZ CROWN! I HATED TO PAWN IT! BUT I NEEDED MONEY TO CONTINUE MY STUDIES AT SCHOOL! I INTENDED TO BUY IT BACK WHEN I COULD!
I'D ALREADY BEEN FORCED TO SELL THE LARGEST DIAMOND IN THE CROWN TO JAMES ORTELL! HE'S THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS COLLECTOR OF SPANISH CURIOS...
THEN THE MATADOR MAY PAY *HIM* A VISIT NEXT!
OR HE MAY COME *HERE!* JUST TO BE SAFE I THINK YOU'D BETTER LEAVE THE CROWN WITH MY FRIEND, STEVE ROGERS, AT THE LEE SCHOOL!
THANK YOU, I WILL!
LET'S GO, BUCKY!
YAHOO! WE'RE HOT ON THE MATADOR'S TRAIL!
IN A CASTLE TRANSPORTED STONE BY STONE FROM OLD SPAIN, JAMES ORTELL LIVES, SURROUNDED BY HIS TREASURES!
THE DRAWBRIDGE IS UP FOR THE NIGHT, MR. ORTELL! IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
NO! YOU MAY RETIRE!
THIS OLD CASTLE GIVES ME A WONDERFUL SENSE OF SECURITY, FATHER!
I KNOW! WE'RE AS SAFE HERE AS ANY GRANDEE IN SPAIN!

BUT JAMES ORTELL SPEAKS PREMATURELY, FOR THE MATADOR IS ALREADY AT WORK...
(PUFF!)(PUFF!) I NEVER HADDA WORK SO HARD AT CRIME BEFORE!
AH, BUT OUR PRIZE IS WORTH THE EFFORT! WAIT UNTIL YOU FEAST YOUR EYES ON THE CHIEF DIAMOND OF THE CORTEZ CROWN!
SENOR-SENORITA! I BEG YOUR PARDON FOR THIS UNSEEMLY INTRUSION!
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
THAT DOES NOT MATTER! SHOW ME THE CORTEZ DIAMOND OR I WILL SLIT YOUR THROAT LIKE A PIGEON'S!
OUTSIDE THE CASTLE!
HURRY, BUCKY! THESE ROPES MEAN ONLY ONE THING!
THE MATADOR ARRIVED BEFORE US!
I HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!

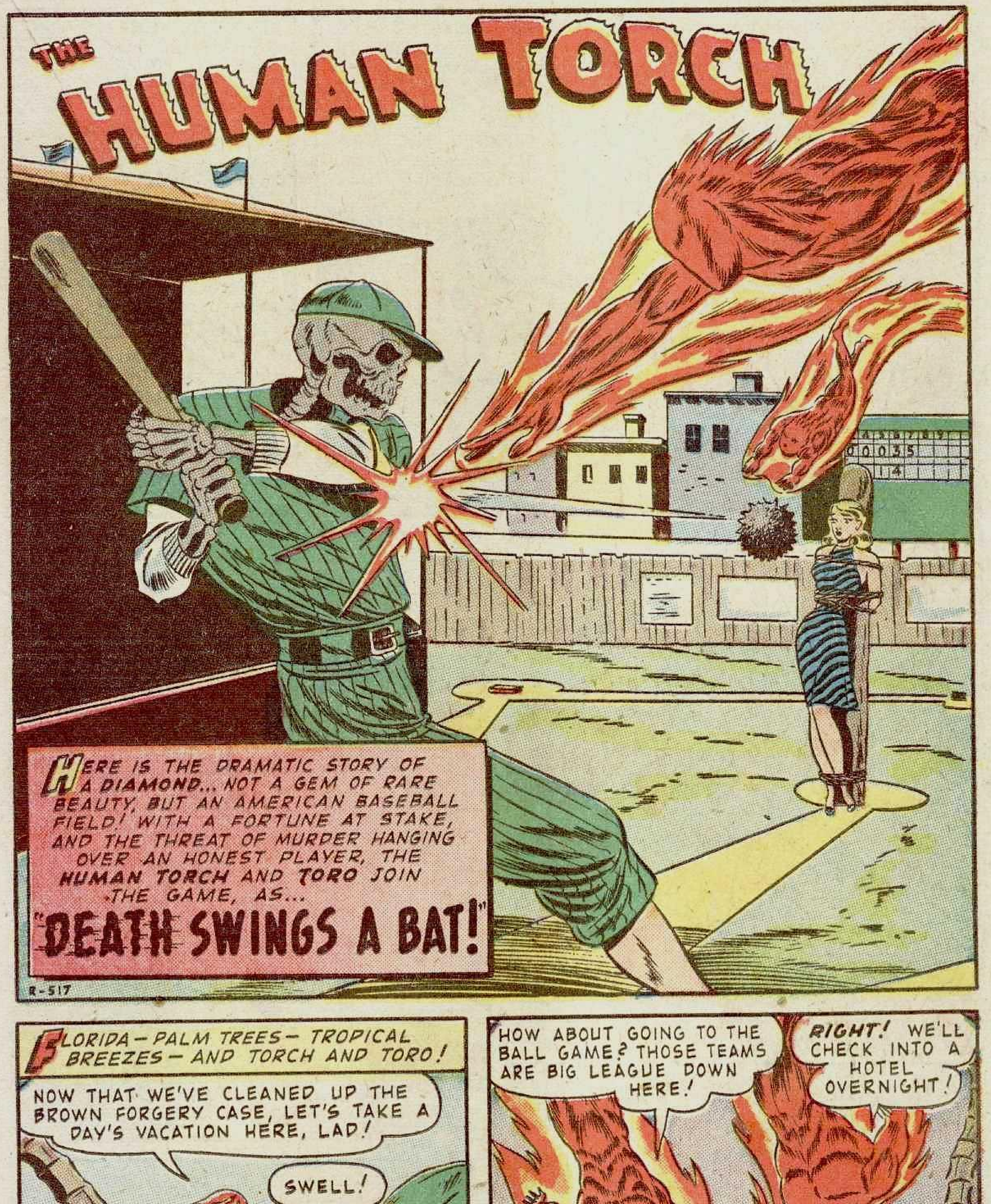
THE VERY DIAMOND ENSHRINED, AS BEFITS ITS HISTORY, IN A COLLECTION OF CORTEZ TROPHIES!
HELLO, AGAIN!
YOU!
DIDN'T WE HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS?
CRACK!
YOURS IS THE FACE I LOVE TO CRUSH!
SAY YOUR PRAYERS! THIS IS IT!
HE ISN'T KIDDING!
A GENUINE CORTEZ HELMET! HE SHOULD BE FLATTERED!
THANKS, CAP! I THOUGHT I WAS A GONER!
BONG!


KEEP BACK! OR THE GIRL WILL DIE!
I REALLY BELIEVE YOU MEAN THAT!
WHA?
YOU WON'T GET ME!
AND THAT MAKES ME MAD!
ADIOS, MY FRIENDS! TILL WE MEET AGAIN!
DROWNED IN THE MOAT! THAT'S THE END OF THE MATADOR!
I WONDER?
The NEXT DAY...
THIS NOTE WAS UNDER THE DOOR! IT'S FROM LOLITA—ADDRESSED TO STEVE! SHE WANTS HIM TO RETURN THE CORTEZ CROWN TO HER!

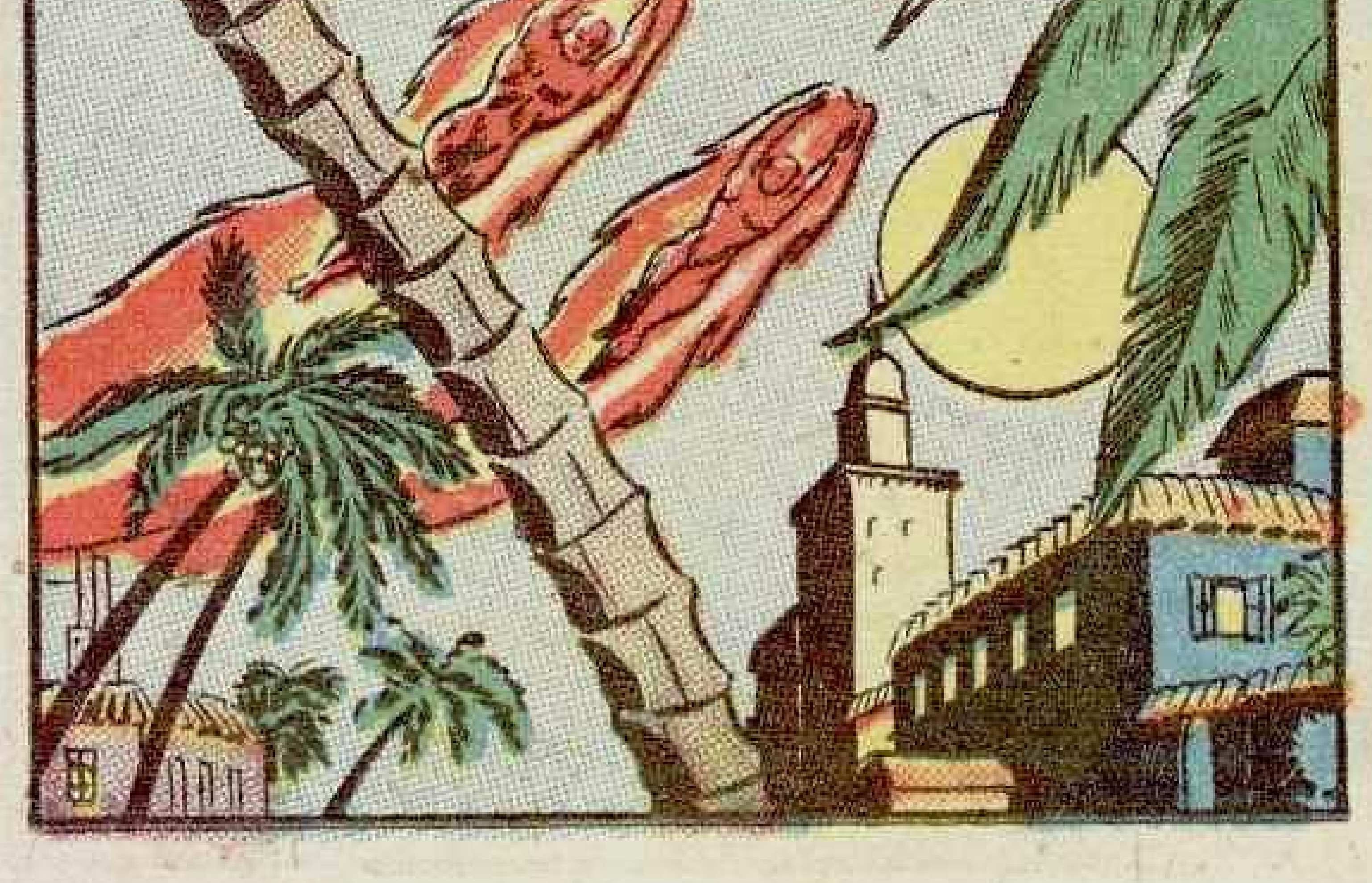
I'LL PICK IT UP FROM THE SCHOOL SAFE. AND RETURN IT MYSELF! STEVE IS BUSY WITH HIS LATE HISTORY CLASS!
A SHORT TIME LATER...
I'VE GOT A PACKAGE FOR MISS DESPANA!
COME RIGHT IN!
I'VE BEEN IMPATIENTLY AWAITING YOU!
UHH!
When BUCKY AWAKENS...
THE CORTEZ CROWN IS MINE COMPLETE WITH ALL ITS JEWELS! BUT YOU MUST FORGIVE ME IF I USE CAUTION EVEN IN MY SUCCESS! THE CURSE SAYS BLOOD MUST BE SHED WHEN THE CROWN CHANGES HANDS!
IT SHALL BE YOUR BLOOD! AT ONCE I SHALL SATISFY THE CURSE AND DISPOSE OF THE WITNESS TO MY TRIUMPH! DEATH BY FIRE SHALL BE YOURS, AS IN THE DAYS OF THE SPANISH INQUISITION!
ONLY PERMIT ME THIS MODERN TOUCH! A FIRE BOMB, THAT SPREADS CREEPING FLAME!
WHHOOM
Let US RETURN A FEW MINUTES TO STEVE ROGERS' ROOM!
BUCKY'S GONE! THIS NOTE EXPLAINS WHERE BUCKY WENT! BUT WHY DID LOLITA SEND A NOTE?

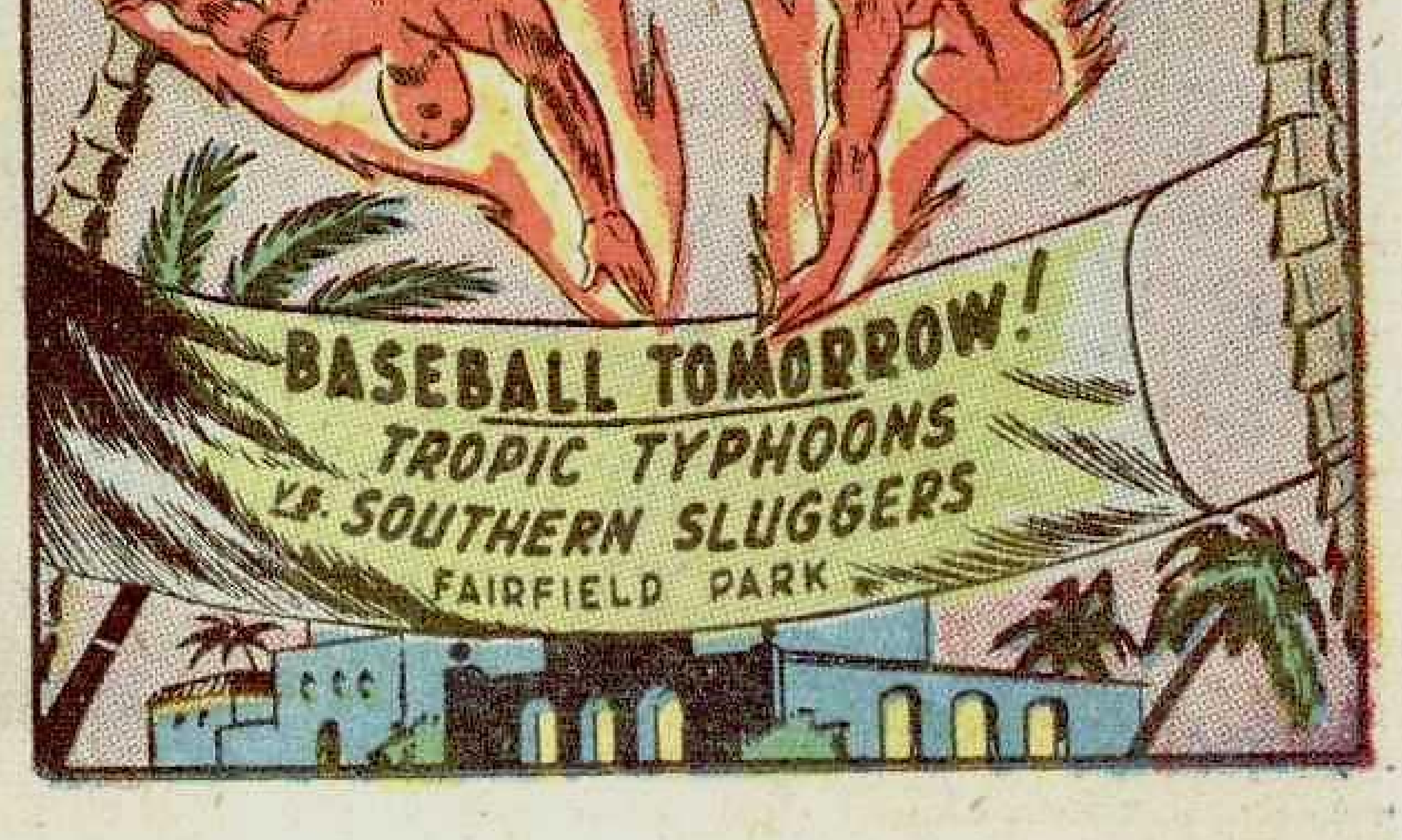

SHE COULD HAVE ASKED ME WHEN SHE SAW ME IN SCHOOL THIS AFTERNOON! *SOMETHING* MADE HER CHANGE HER MIND ABOUT NEEDING THE CROWN AND I'VE A HUNCH I KNOW WHAT DID IT!
THE MATADOR IS STILL ALIVE!
MY MEN ARE WAITING FOR ME! FAREWELL, MY FRIENDS! I *KNOW* THAT WE SHALL NEVER MEET AGAIN!
I FOUND THESE TWO OUTSIDE! FRIENDS OF YOURS?
ULP! CAPTAIN AMERICA!
YOU WON'T STOP ME NOW!
CARE TO PLACE ANY BETS?
MY SWORD'S BROKEN!
SO IT IS!

NOW WE CAN FIGHT MAN TO MAN!
UHHH!
CAP BETTER FINISH HIM QUICK, OR THE FLAMES WILL DESTROY US ALL! LOLITA'S UNCONSCIOUS ALREADY!
I'VE NO MORE TIME TO WASTE!
CRACK!
YOU'RE FREE, BUCKY! GET LOLITA OUT OF HERE!
RIGHT!
YOU THINK I'M BEATEN? WELL, YOU'RE WRONG! I'VE ONE MORE TRICK HIDDEN ON ME!
LOOK OUT, YOU FOOL! THE FIRE!
YAAAA!
THE CREEPING FLAME GOT HIM! HE'S DOOMED!
Later...
I SAVED THE CROWN OF CORTEZ! BUT THE CURSE CLAIMED ANOTHER LIFE!
THE MATADOR DESTROYED HIMSELF! THERE IS NO CURSE SO POWERFUL AS THE EVIL IN A MAN'S SOUL!
12
THE END


THE HUMAN TORCH
HERE IS THE DRAMATIC STORY OF A DIAMOND... NOT A GEM OF RARE BEAUTY, BUT AN AMERICAN BASEBALL FIELD! WITH A FORTUNE AT STAKE, AND THE THREAT OF MURDER HANGING OVER AN HONEST PLAYER, THE **HUMAN TORCH** AND **TORO** JOIN THE GAME, AS...
"DEATH SWINGS A BAT!"

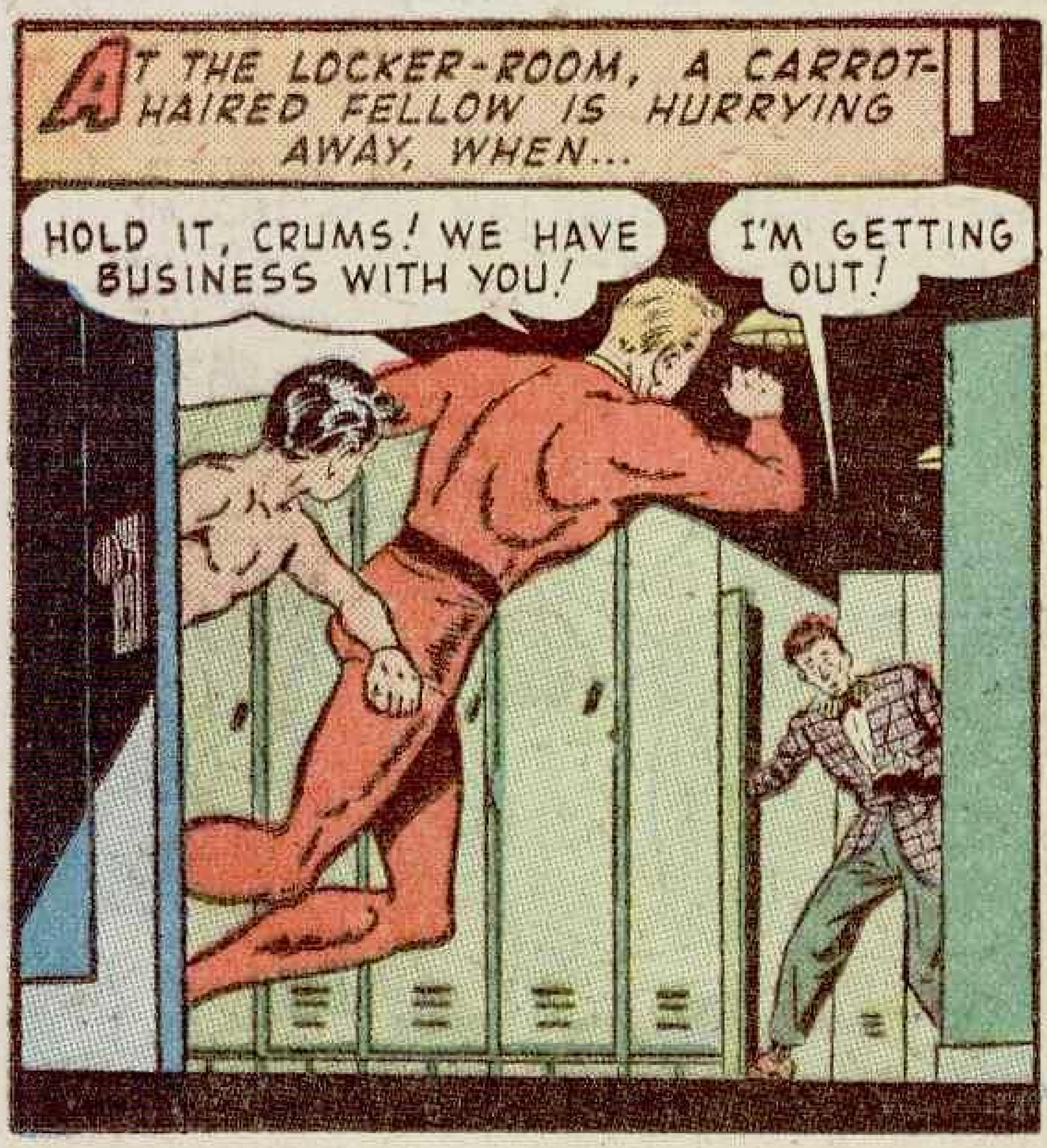
R-517

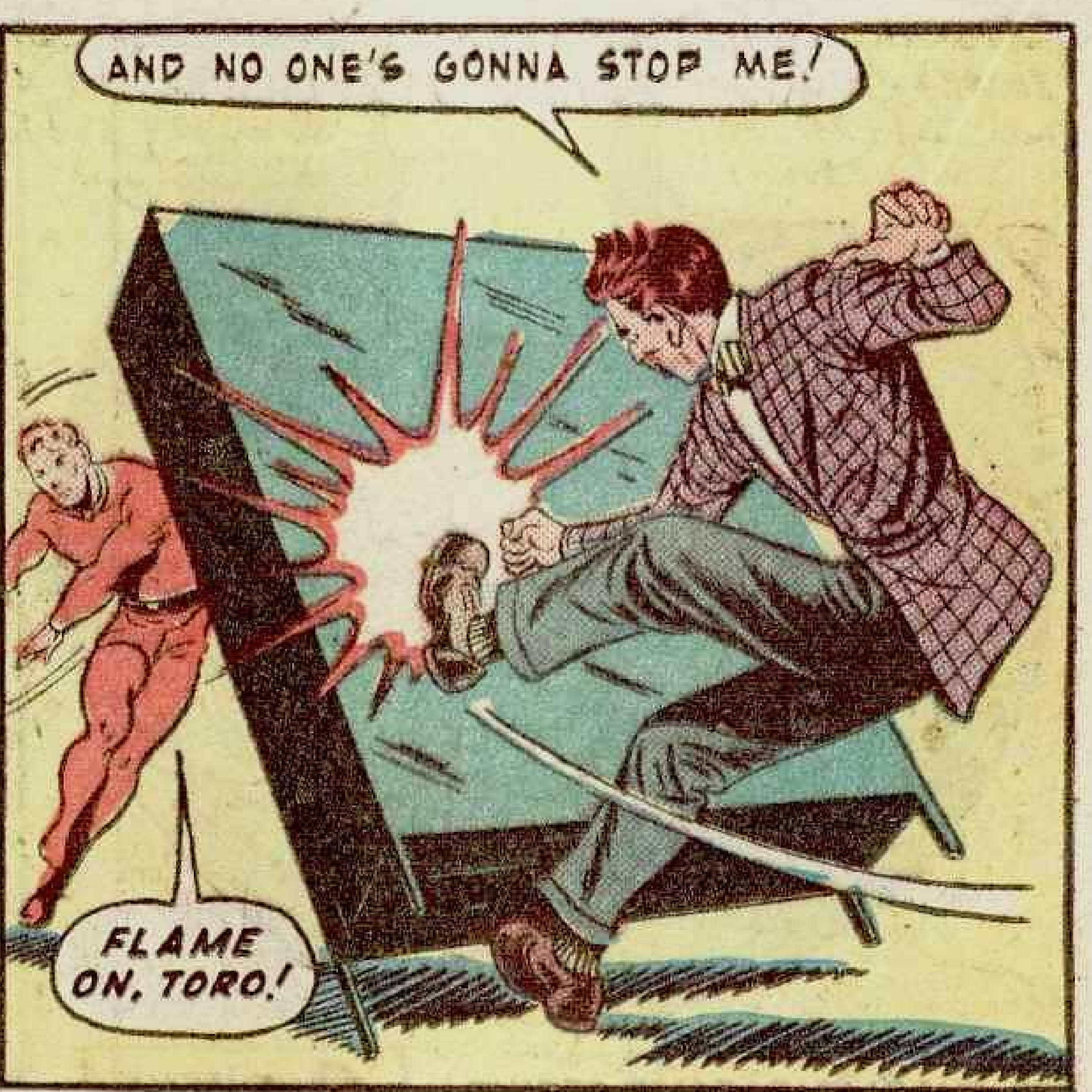

FLORIDA—PALM TREES—TROPICAL BREEZES—AND TORCH AND TORO!
NOW THAT WE'VE CLEANED UP THE BROWN FORGERY CASE, LET'S TAKE A DAY'S VACATION HERE, LAD!
SWELL!

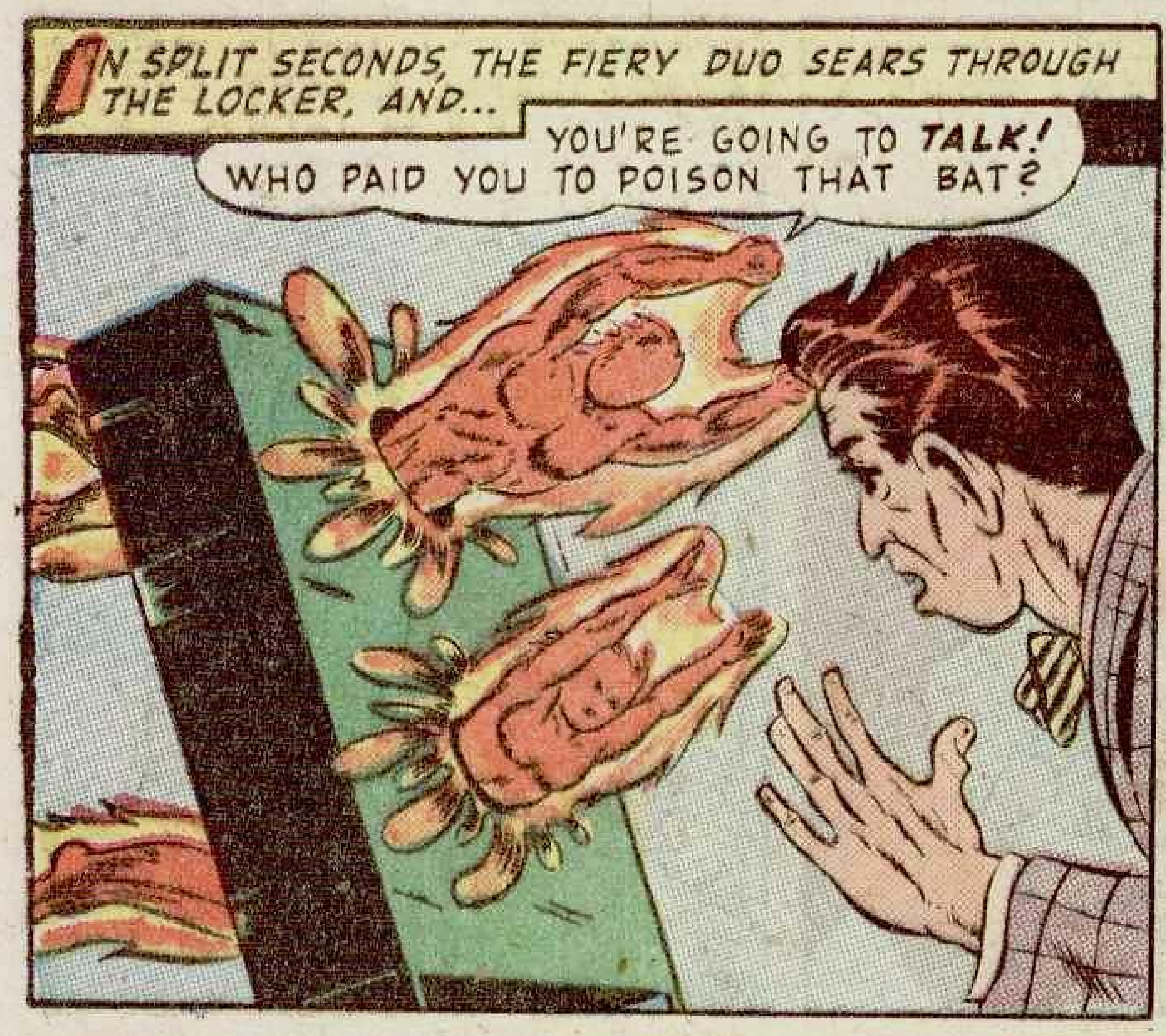

HOW ABOUT GOING TO THE BALL GAME? THOSE TEAMS ARE BIG LEAGUE DOWN HERE!
RIGHT! WE'LL CHECK INTO A HOTEL OVERNIGHT!
BASEBALL TOMORROW!
TROPIC TYPHOONS
VS. SOUTHERN SLUGGERS
FAIRFIELD PARK

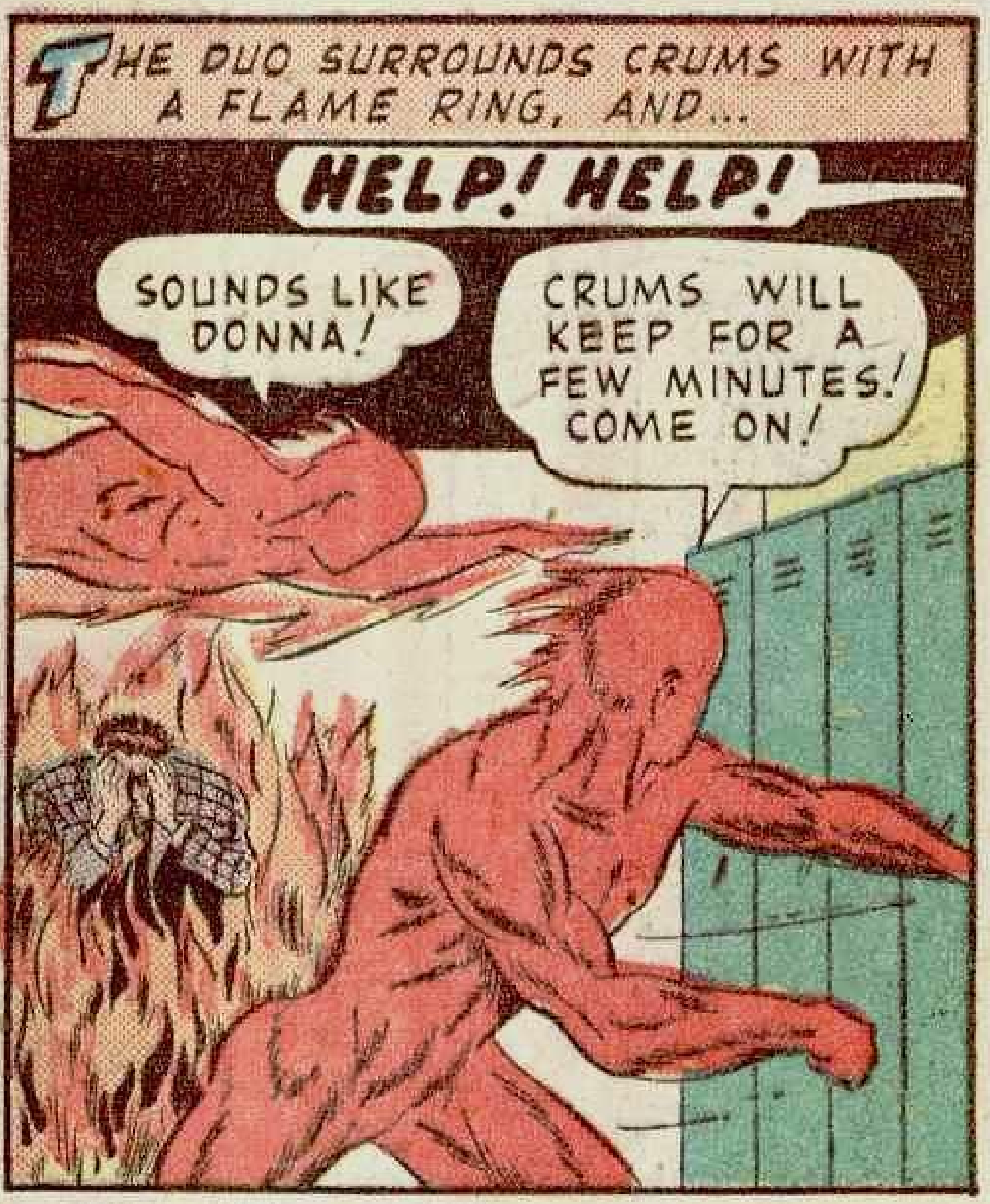
AT THE SEA VIEW HOTEL...
IT'S AN HONOR TO HAVE YOU WITH US!
TORCH! TORO! MAY I SEE YOU A MOMENT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT, MISS...?
DONNA CARTER! IT'S MY FIANCÉ JACK BARTLEY, STAR HITTER ON THE TYPHOONS! HIS LIFE IS IN DANGER! HE WAS OFFERED $5,000 TO THROW THE GAME! HE REFUSED THE BRIBE!
HIS LIFE'S BEEN THREATENED FOR THAT! IF YOU TWO COULD GUIDE HIM... HE'S IN ROOM 300!
WE'LL GO UP! I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE!
GET OUT!
THAT'S JACK!
SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE! FLAME, LAD!
300
THE TORRID TEAM ROCKETS IN, AGAINST SPEWING BULLETS!
I'LL GET OUT, BARTLEY, AFTER I... THE TORCH!
SPOILED YOUR PARTY, HUH?
BUT THE NEXT MOMENT...
THE AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SKIP OUT!
FLAME OFF, TORO!
SHORT SECONDS LATER...
JACK-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES-THANKS TO TORCH AND TORO! BUT THAT CROOK GOT AWAY!

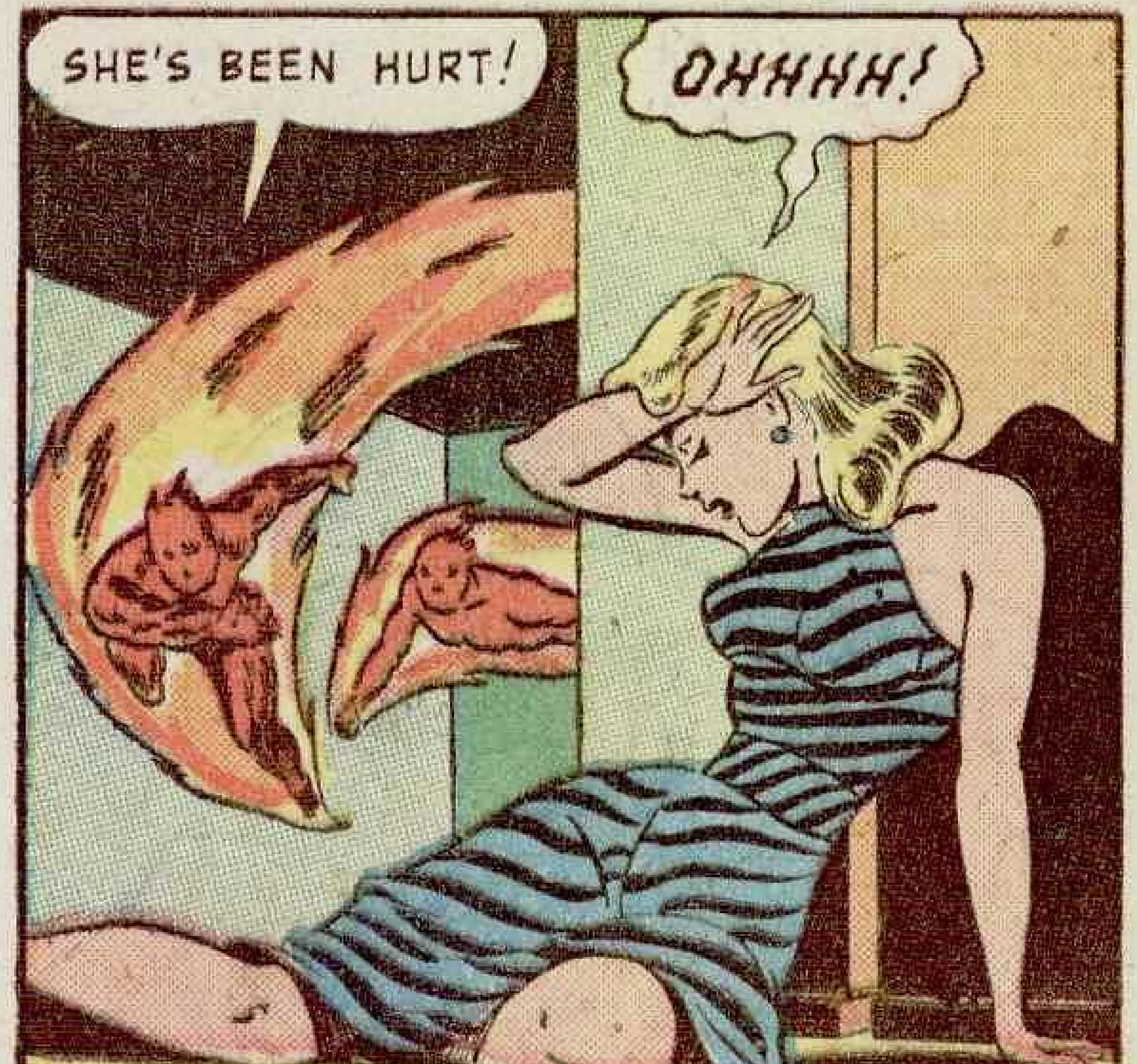
BUT I'M AFRAID HE AND HIS MOBSTERS MAY COME BACK!
TORO AND I WILL STICK WITH YOU, JACK!
OH... THAT'S WONDERFUL!
NEXT DAY, AT THE BALL PARK...
GAME'S STARTING—TYPHOONS ARE FIRST AT BAT! AT LAST I'M BREATHING EASY...
JUST THE SAME, WE'RE STAYING RIGHT HERE TO WATCH YOU!
IF CHARLIE DOESN'T STRIKE OUT, I'M UP NEXT... I USE MY **OWN** BAT! THAT'S IT—THE ONE SPARKS IS LICKING...
TYPHOONS
A MOMENT AFTER!
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH SPARKS!
DON'T TOUCH THAT BAT, JACK!
7
SPARKS IS DEAD! THAT BAT HANDLE HAS ACID ON IT!
AND IT WAS ***MEANT*** FOR JACK!
WHERE'S JACK?
COACH LAMSON, WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHY—WHERE ***IS*** JACK? HE WAS STANDING HERE A SECOND AGO!
I CAME OUT TO GET HIM INTO THE GAME!
GOSH, HE'S ***DISAPPEARED!*** WHILE WE WERE BUSY WITH SPARKS!
COACH, WHO BROUGHT UP THE RACK? I'VE GOT TO SEE WHOEVER HAS MOST ACCESS TO JACK'S BAT!
ED CRUMS, RED-HEADED FELLA, DOES ALL THE CHORES! LAST TIME I SAW HIM HE WAS GOING TOWARD THE LOCKERS!
T

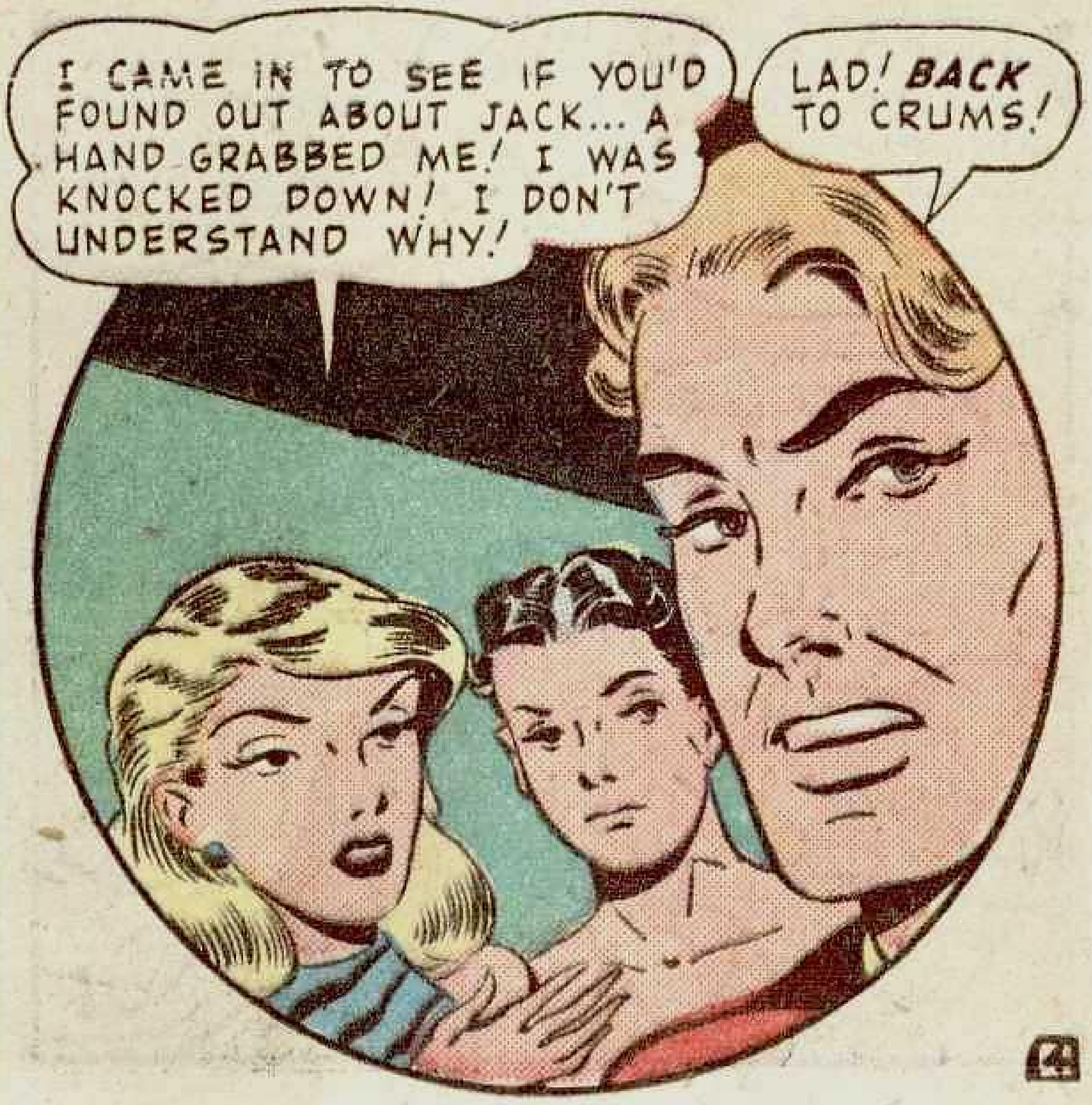

AT THE LOCKER-ROOM, A CARROT-HAIRED FELLOW IS HURRYING AWAY, WHEN...
HOLD IT, CRUMS! WE HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOU!
I'M GETTING OUT!

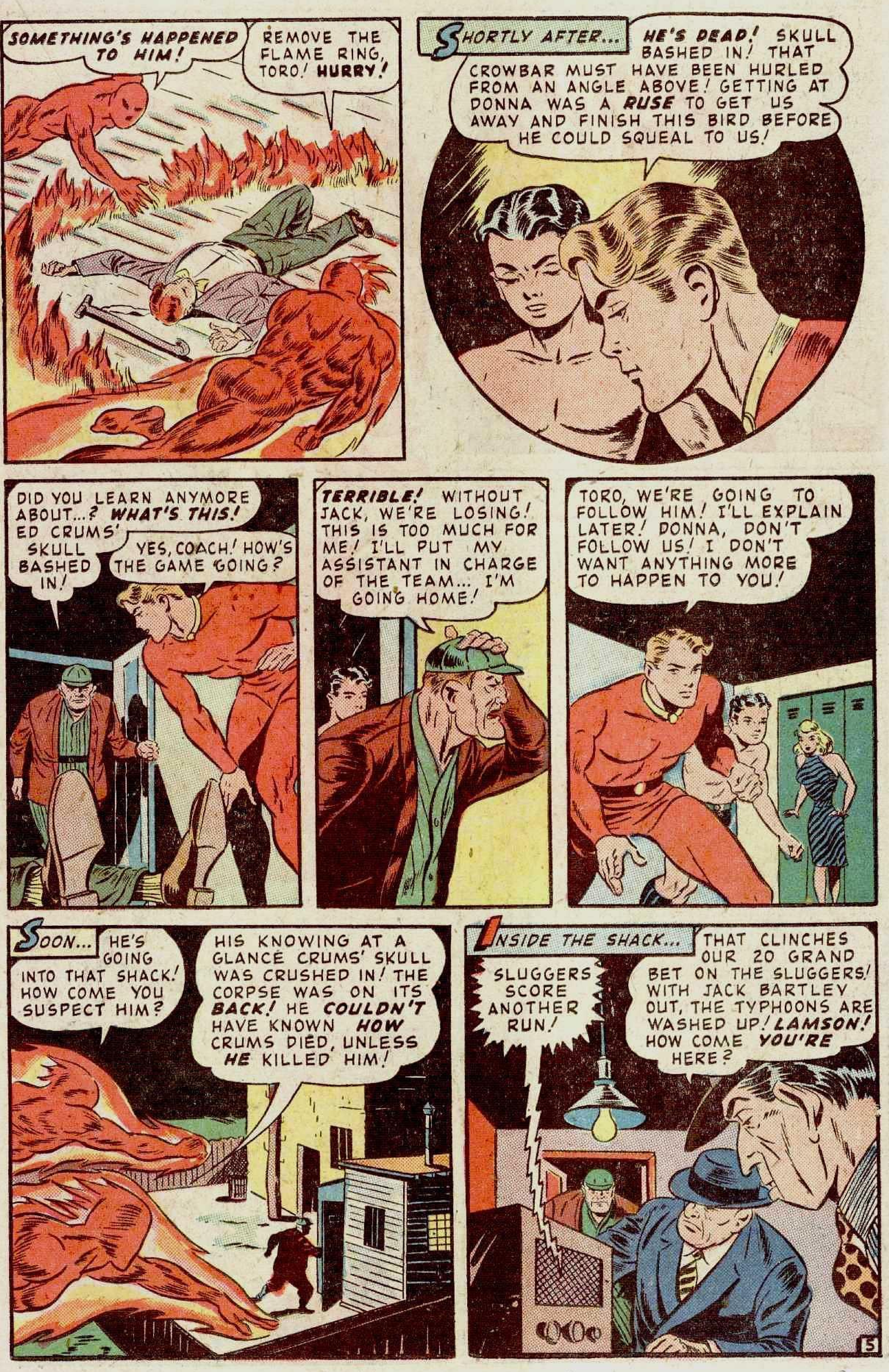

AND NO ONE'S GONNA STOP ME!
FLAME ON, TORO!

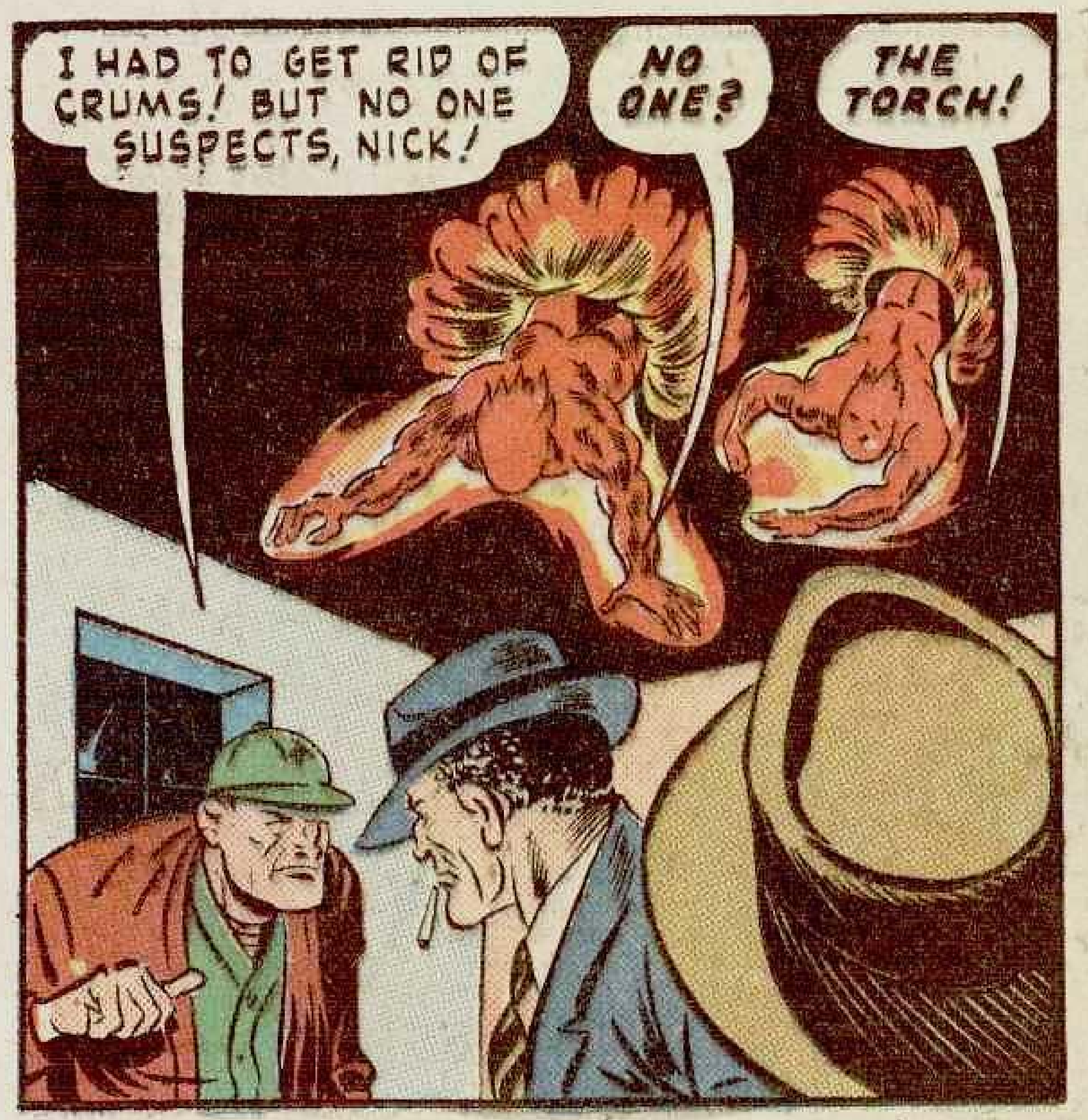

IN SPLIT SECONDS, THE FIERY DUO SEARS THROUGH THE LOCKER, AND...
YOU'RE GOING TO TALK! WHO PAID YOU TO POISON THAT BAT?

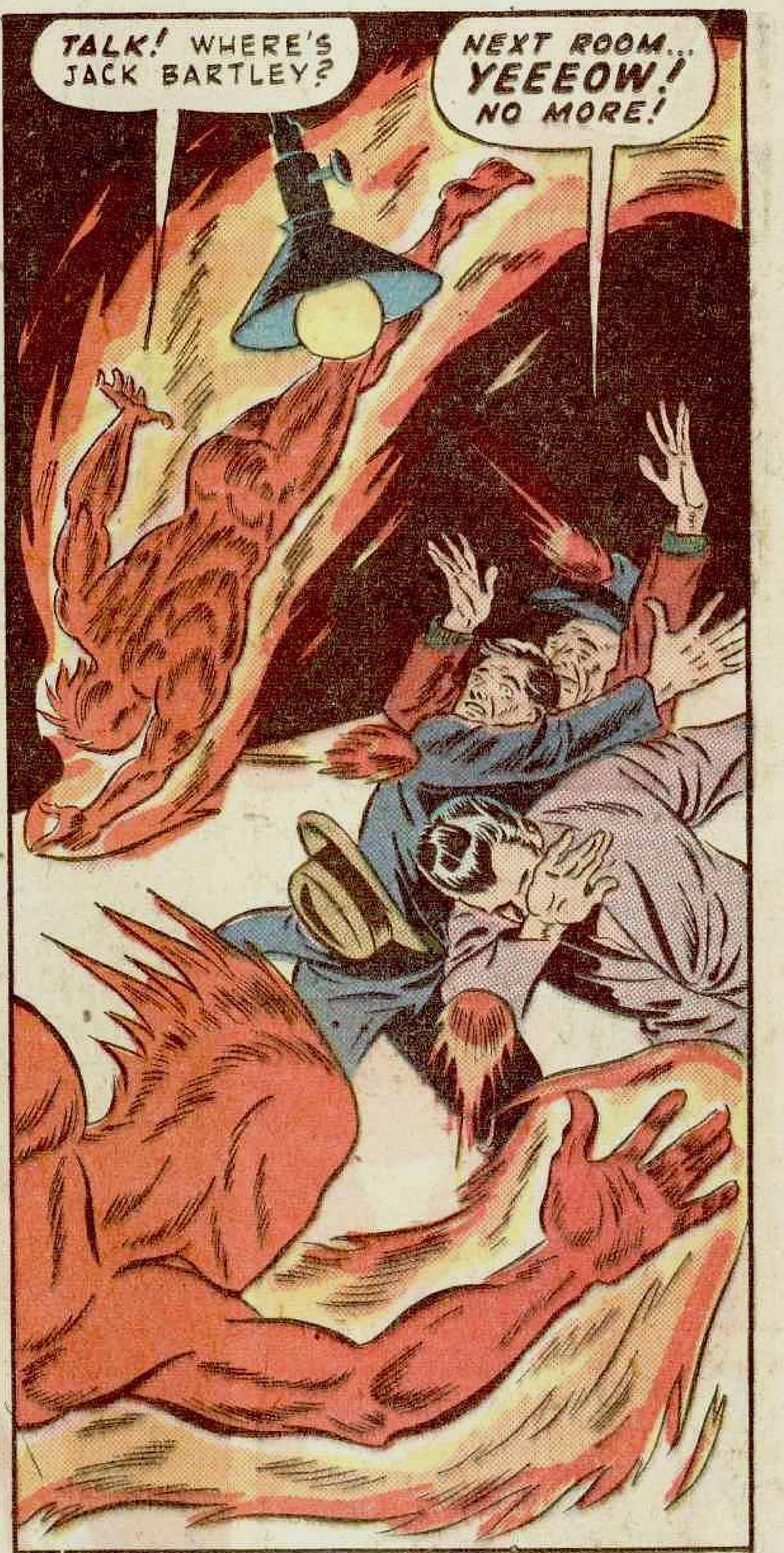

THE DUO SURROUNDS CRUMS WITH A FLAME RING, AND...
HELP! HELP!
SOUNDS LIKE DONNA!
CRUMS WILL KEEP FOR A FEW MINUTES! COME ON!

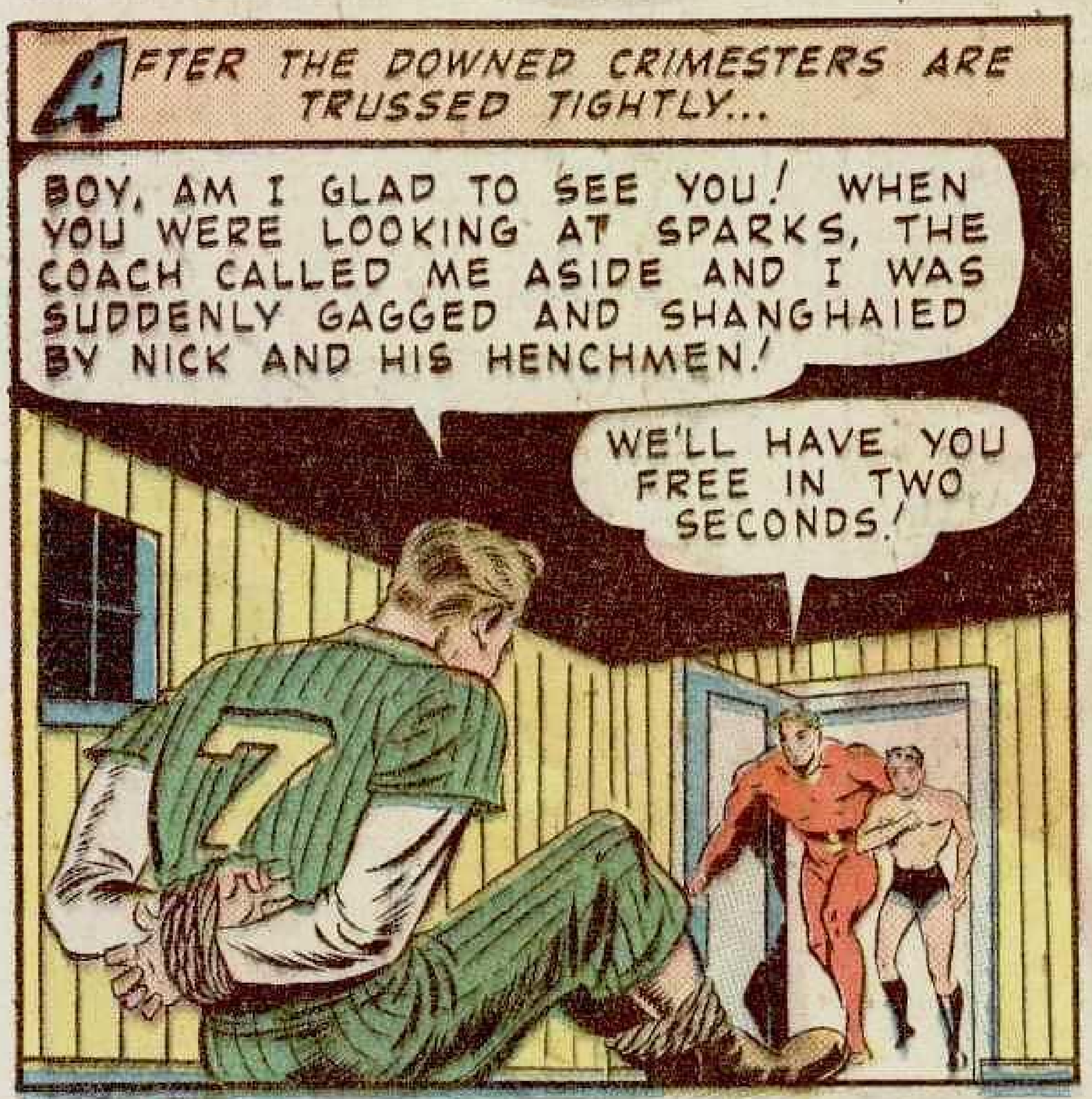

SHE'S BEEN HURT!
OHHHH!

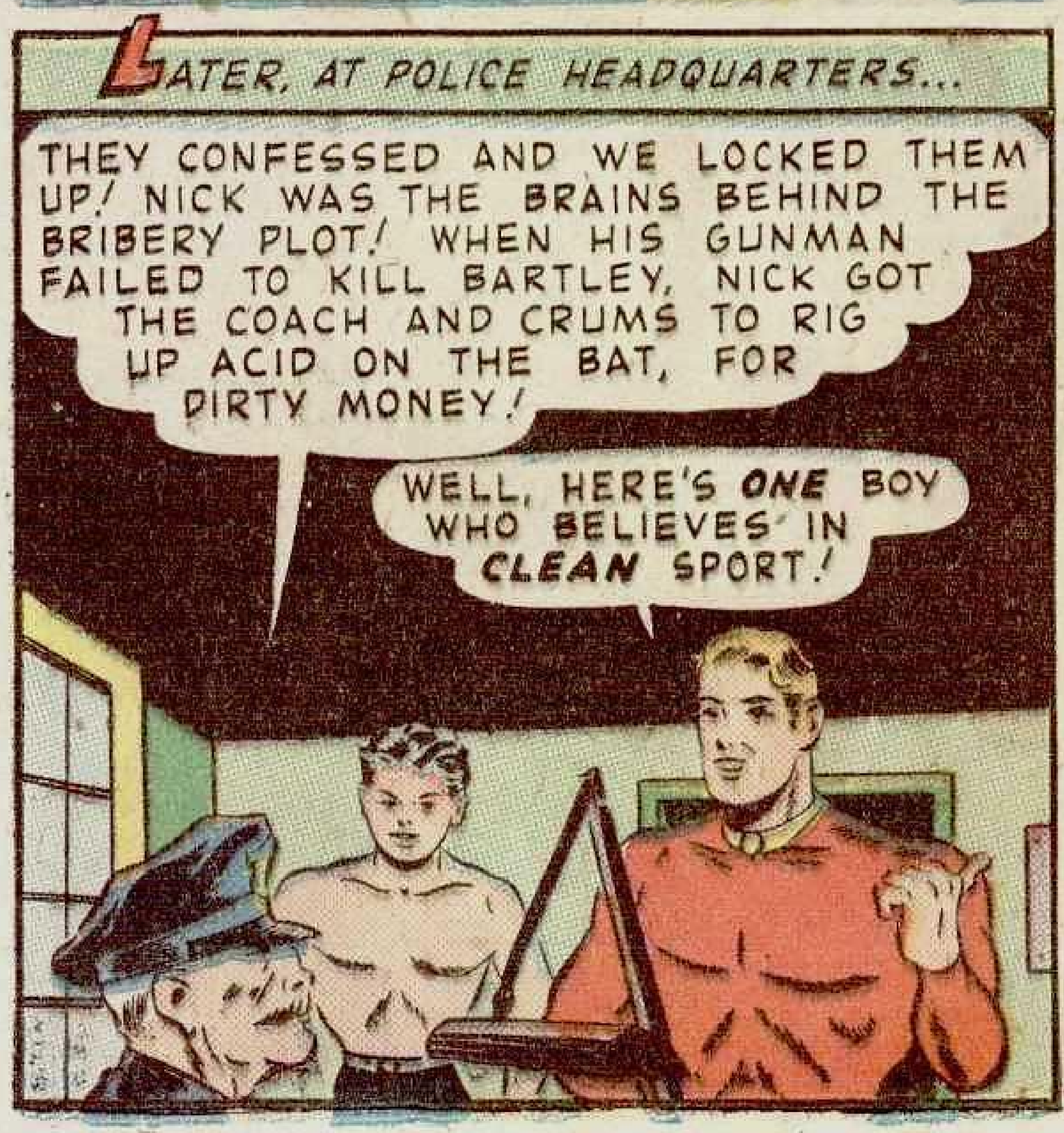

I CAME IN TO SEE IF YOU'D FOUND OUT ABOUT JACK... A HAND GRABBED ME! I WAS KNOCKED DOWN! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY!
LAD! BACK TO CRUMS!

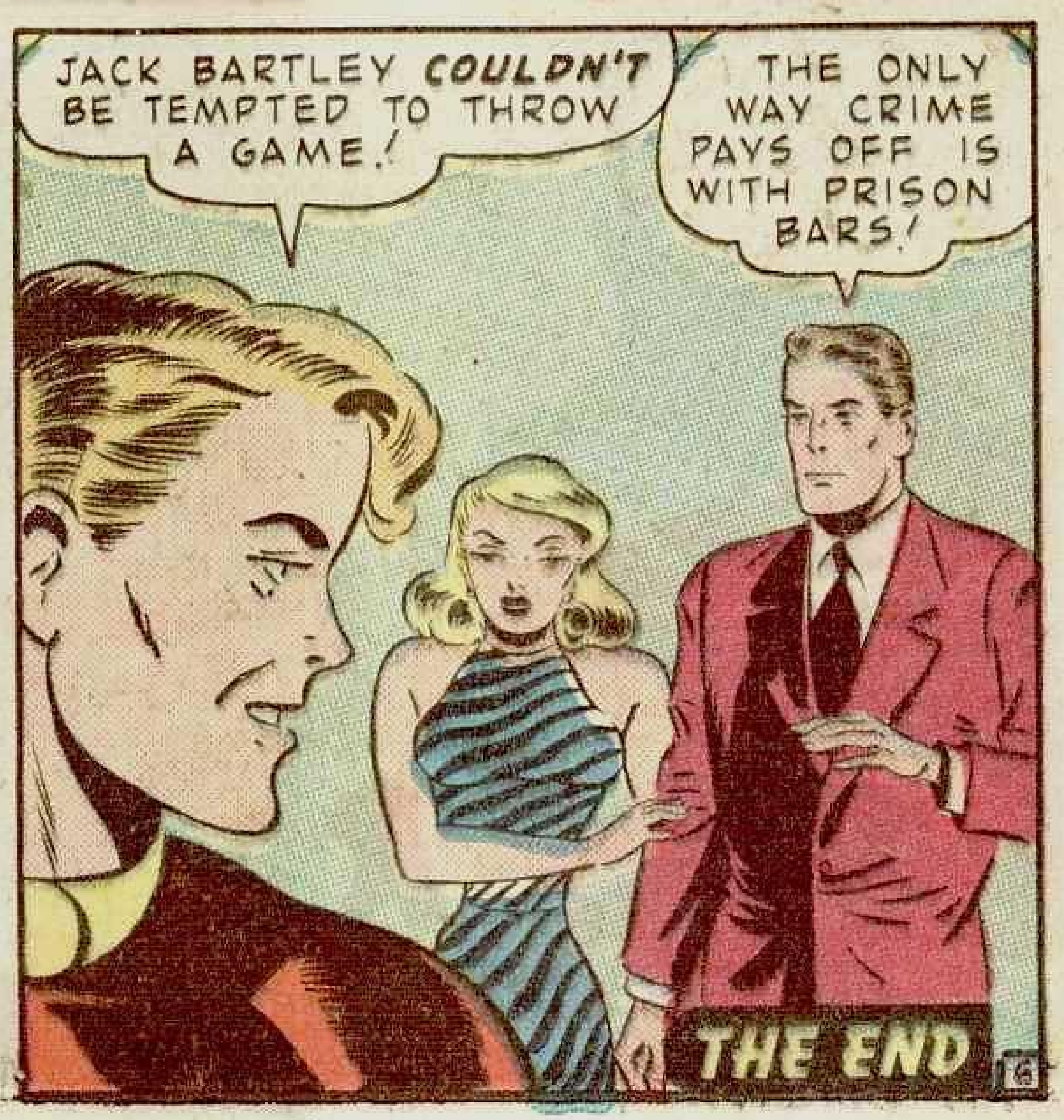

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM!
REMOVE THE FLAME RING, TORO! HURRY!
SHORTLY AFTER...
HE'S DEAD! SKULL BASHED IN! THAT CROWBAR MUST HAVE BEEN HURLED FROM AN ANGLE ABOVE! GETTING AT DONNA WAS A RUSE TO GET US AWAY AND FINISH THIS BIRD BEFORE HE COULD SQUEAL TO US!
DID YOU LEARN ANYMORE ABOUT...? WHAT'S THIS! ED CRUMS' SKULL BASHED IN!
YES, COACH! HOW'S THE GAME GOING?
TERRIBLE! WITHOUT JACK, WE'RE LOSING! THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR ME! I'LL PUT MY ASSISTANT IN CHARGE OF THE TEAM... I'M GOING HOME!
TORO, WE'RE GOING TO FOLLOW HIM! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! DONNA, DON'T FOLLOW US! I DON'T WANT ANYTHING MORE TO HAPPEN TO YOU!
SOON...
HE'S GOING INTO THAT SHACK! HOW COME YOU SUSPECT HIM?
HIS KNOWING AT A GLANCE CRUMS' SKULL WAS CRUSHED IN! THE CORPSE WAS ON ITS BACK! HE COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN HOW CRUMS DIED, UNLESS HE KILLED HIM!
INSIDE THE SHACK...
SLUGGERS SCORE ANOTHER RUN!
THAT CLINCHES OUR 20 GRAND BET ON THE SLUGGERS! WITH JACK BARTLEY OUT, THE TYPHOONS ARE WASHED UP! LAMSON! HOW COME YOU'RE HERE?


I HAD TO GET RID OF CRUMS! BUT NO ONE SUSPECTS, NICK!
NO ONE?
THE TORCH!


TALK! WHERE'S JACK BARTLEY?
NEXT ROOM... YEEEOW! NO MORE!


AFTER THE DOWNED CRIMESTERS ARE TRUSSED TIGHTLY...
BOY, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! WHEN YOU WERE LOOKING AT SPARKS, THE COACH CALLED ME ASIDE AND I WAS SUDDENLY GAGGED AND SHANGHAIED BY NICK AND HIS HENCHMEN!
WE'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN TWO SECONDS!
7


LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
THEY CONFESSED AND WE LOCKED THEM UP! NICK WAS THE BRAINS BEHIND THE BRIBERY PLOT! WHEN HIS GUNMAN FAILED TO KILL BARTLEY, NICK GOT THE COACH AND CRUMS TO RIG UP ACID ON THE BAT, FOR DIRTY MONEY!
WELL, HERE'S ONE BOY WHO BELIEVES IN CLEAN SPORT!


JACK BARTLEY COULDN'T BE TEMPTED TO THROW A GAME!
THE ONLY WAY CRIME PAYS OFF IS WITH PRISON BARS!
THE END

ADVENTURE IN THE NIGHT

CAMPING out was nothing new to Phil and Harry. With the consent of their parents they had spent many nights like this in their pup tent beneath the stars. Mr. Wilson, Harry's father, didn't like the idea at first. He soon realized, however, that his son was a pretty good camper for his 15 years, and gave his okay to their frequent overnight adventures.

Phil's parents were even easier to deal with. His father, Mr. Blake, was an outdoor man from 'way back. It was his fishing tent they were using. And his charcoal burner.

It was Mr. Blake's stories of his adventures in the Maine woods that first inspired the boys to try camping out for themselves. The boys loved the yarns, but—Mr. Wilson, born and raised in the city, found most of Mr. Blake's stories hard to swallow. Blake was good natured about it, however, and occasionally baited Mr. Wilson with a tale that would make him fume. Like the story about the hunt for the black panther near Moosehead Lake.

"Black panther?" Mr. Wilson scoffed. "You mean puma or mountain lion. *Panthers* are found only in Asia or Africa!"

"That's right," Mr. Blake smilingly agreed, "except that, *this* time, there *was* a black panther around Moosehead Lake and we set out to get him!" He continued with the story about the chase. Throughout, Mr. Wilson continued to scoff and make remarks under his breath.

Blake ignored the jibes. He seemed almost to enjoy them, which made Mr. Wilson all the madder. To back up his point, Wilson went so far as to look the word "panther" up in his encyclopedia.

"A cunning animal," Mr. Blake continued, "actually a variety of leopard——" But he got no further. Mr. Wilson shoved an open book under his nose.

"Look there! If you can read!" he challenged. "Panther! Type of leopard! Found *only in Asia and Africa!* It couldn't have been *near* your Moosehead Lake!"

"Your book is right," Mr. Blake said, removing his glasses and looking straight at Mr. Wilson. "This panther *was* from Africa. Central Africa. But he *was* at Moosehead Lake and we *got* him!"

Then, casually putting his glasses back on, Mr. Blake added, "It escaped from a circus at Bangor a week before."

Yes, Mr. Blake was a woodsman and his knowledge and equipment came in mighty handy to Phil and Harry.

To offset Mr. Blake's gifts, Mr. Wilson supplied the blankets and cooking utensils, a mess kit, relic of World War I, and a blackened coffee pot. Their mothers, of course, supplied the important items: cocoa, sugar, canned milk, bacon, bread, and a good supply of cookies.

At peace with the world, our young friends stretched within their canvas palace, shifting occasionally to find a more comfortable position for their hips.

"Ummmm," Phil muttered. "This is the *life!*"

Harry didn't answer though he was awake. It was late, probably one or two in the morning, and he was playing a game: Seeing how many of the mysterious night sounds he could identify. It was a pleasant way to fall asleep, he thought, which he was doing . . . very rapidly now . . .

There was no more sound from Phil. Only heavy breathing. He, too, had fallen asleep.

Some time later, how much later the boys couldn't tell, they were suddenly and frightfully awakened by a blood-curdling scream. At first it sounded like a woman or a child, but Phil, upon peering cautiously between the flaps of the tent, finally identified it.

"Cats!" he breathed. "Wild ones! They're after our bacon!"

Harry edged Phil aside and looked out, too. What he saw made cold chills creep up his back. A pair of slanting, luminous eyes stared at him from the blackness. Then another pair, and finally, a large, slinking form not more than 10 feet away!

Harry felt beside his bed and his fingers

continued →

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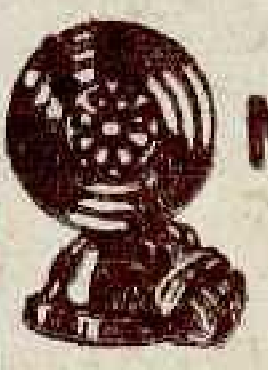

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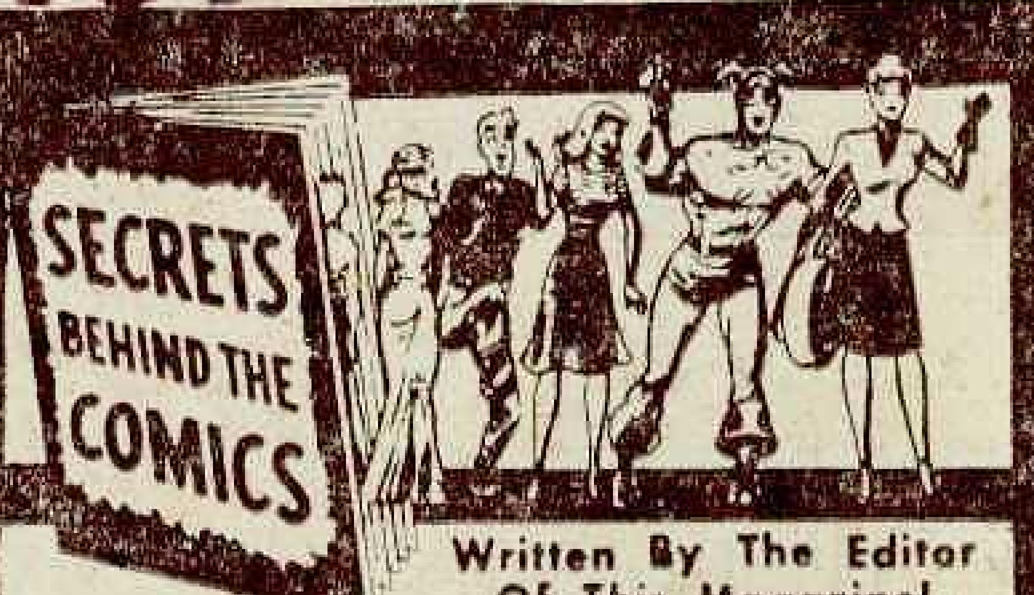

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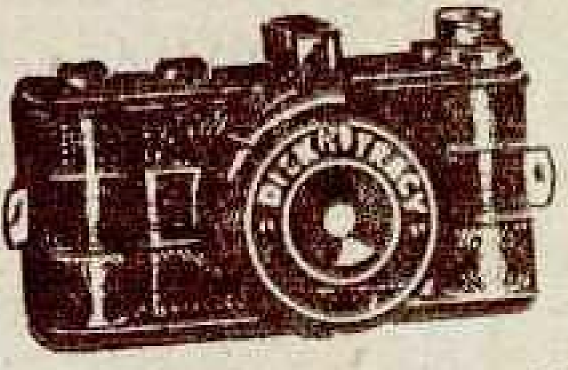

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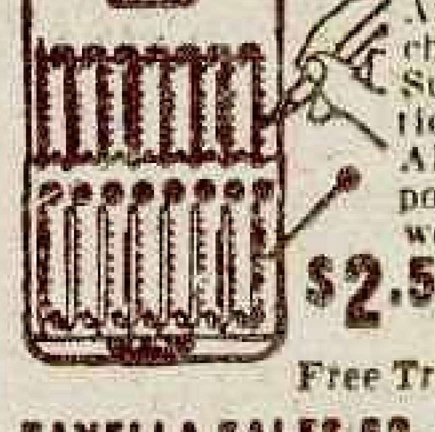

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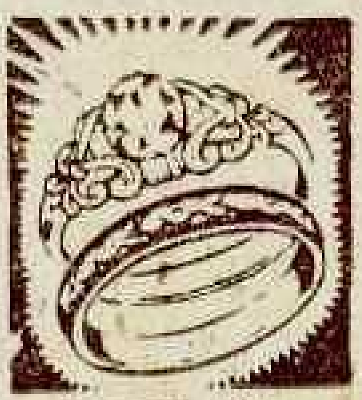

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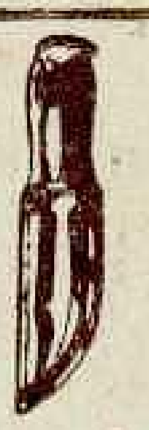

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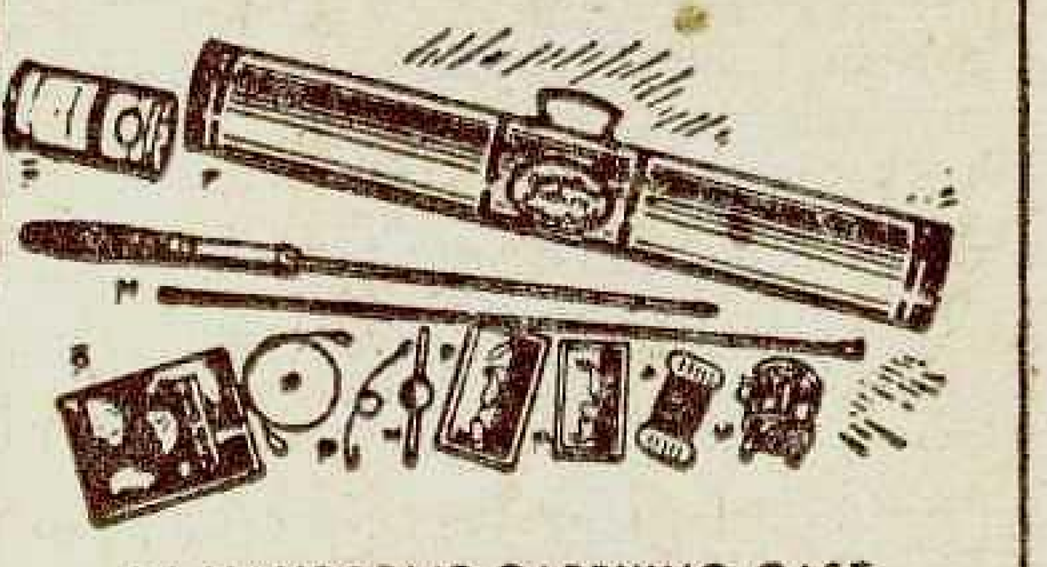

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Every boy and girl wants this wonderful 11 piece fishing outfit that is newly designed and professionally constructed. This set includes a two piece, oil-tempered, 48'' long **STEEL ROD**-TyLine Reel with Click-Sinkers-Nylon fishing line-Float-Snelled Hook Assorted **STEEL** Fish Hooks- 2 foot Gut Leader-Illustrated Instruction Book-Handy parts Bait Can-fits into Solid Metal Carrying Case. Everything you need to catch the big ones, only $3.95.

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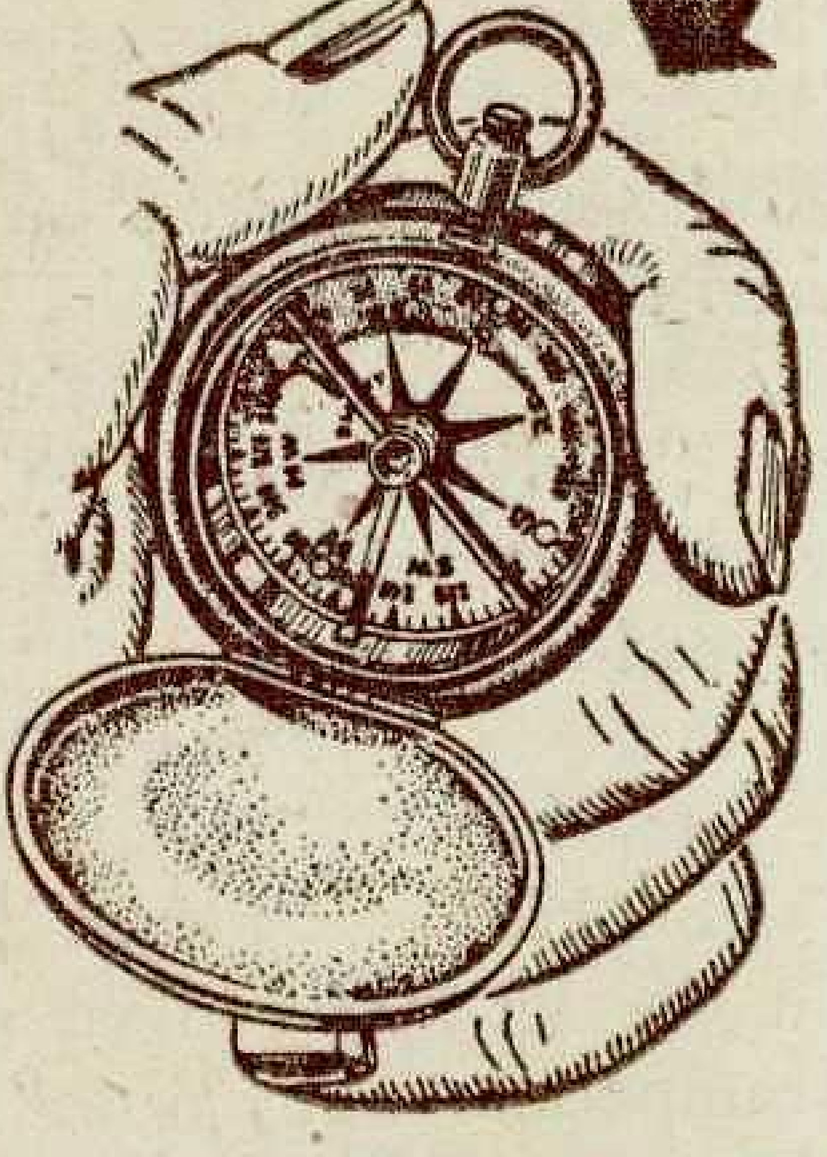

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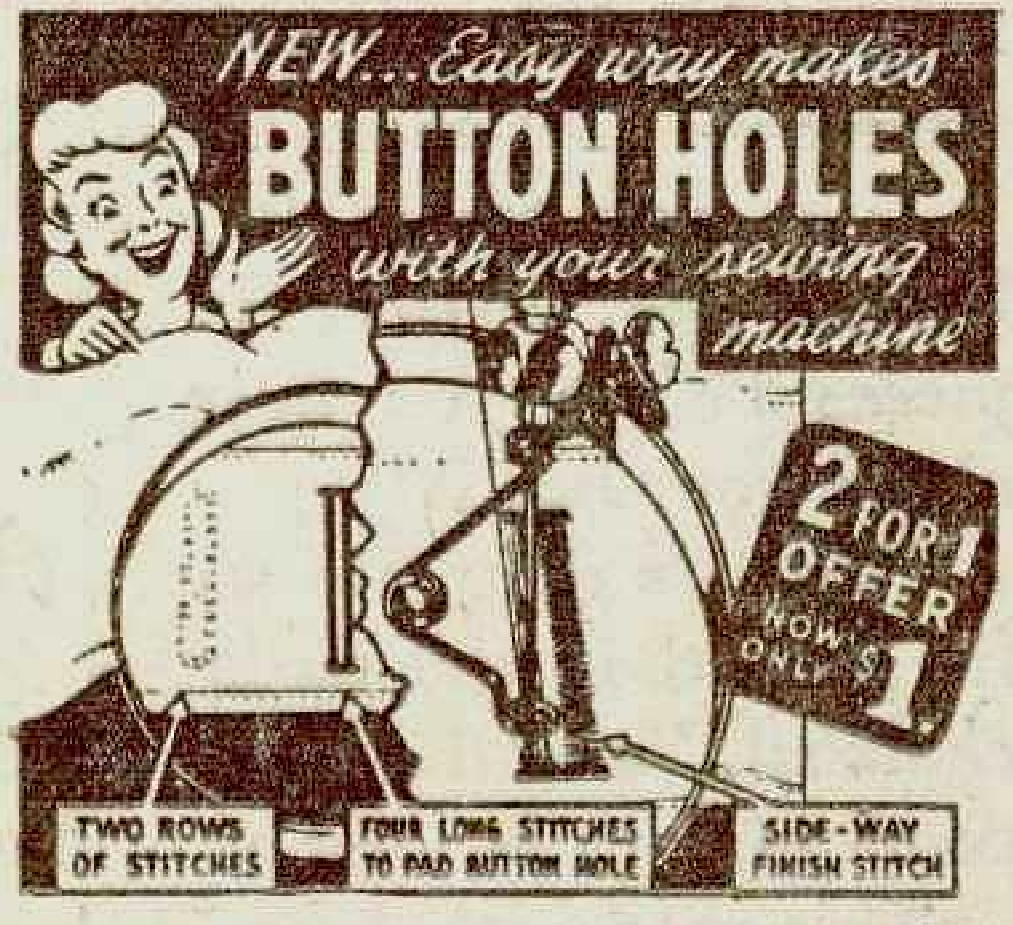
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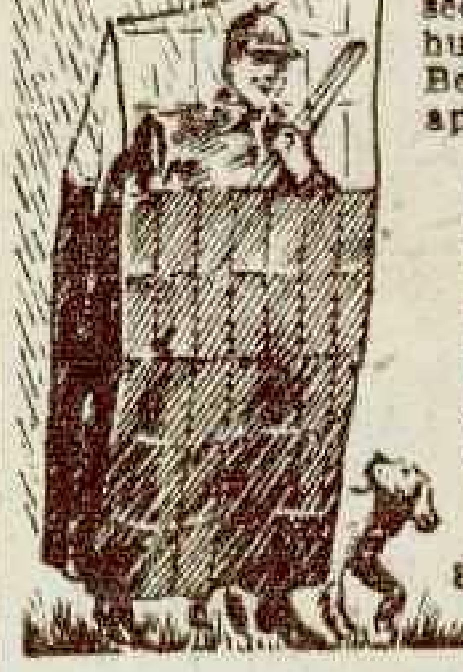

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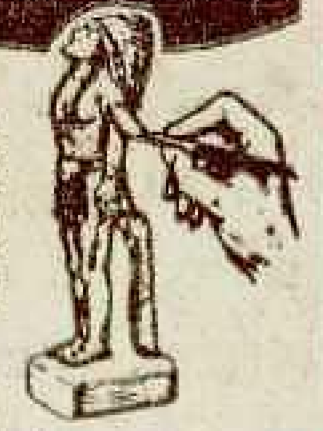

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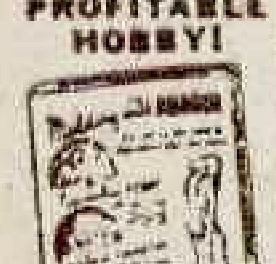

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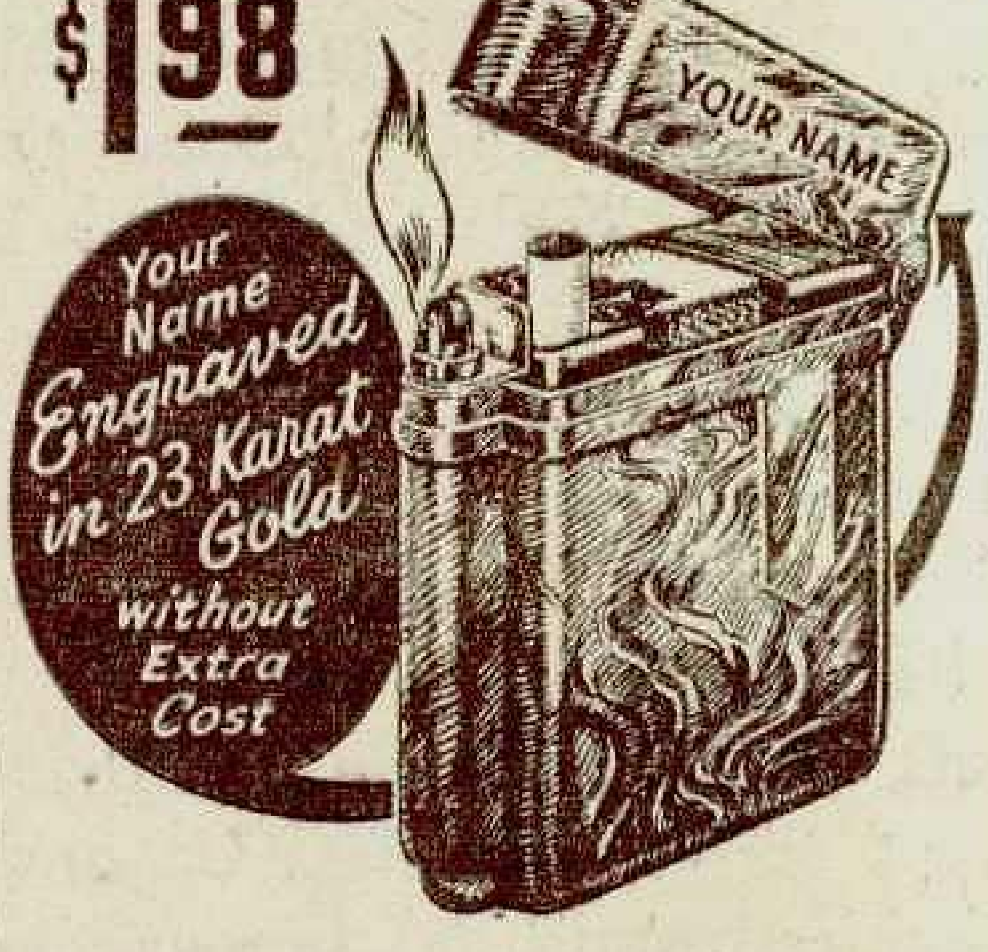
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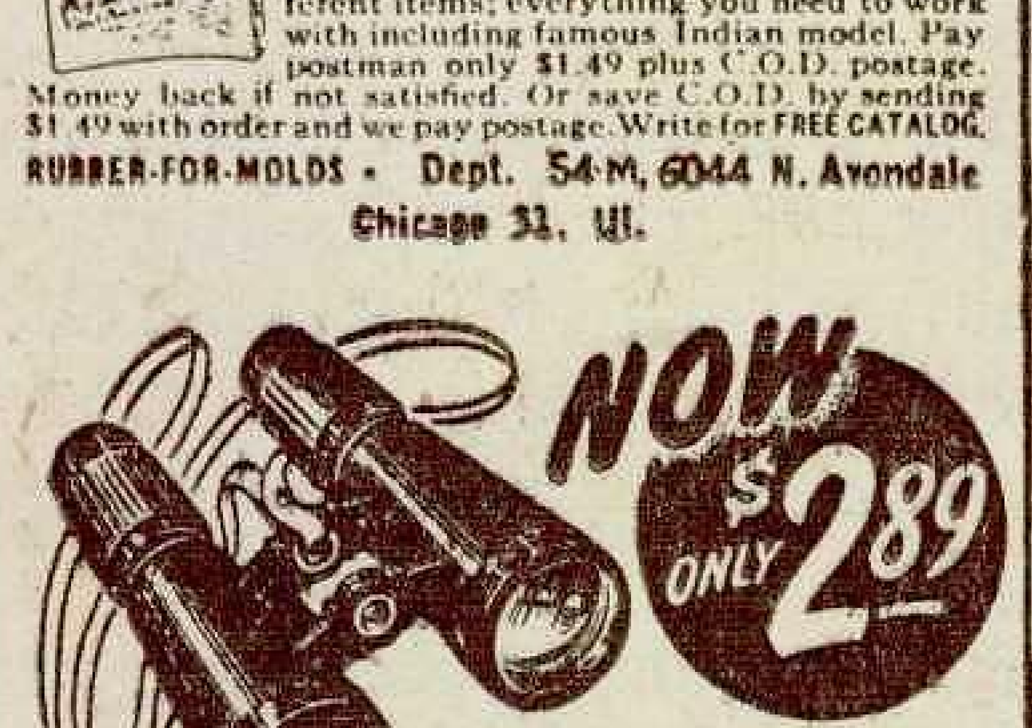

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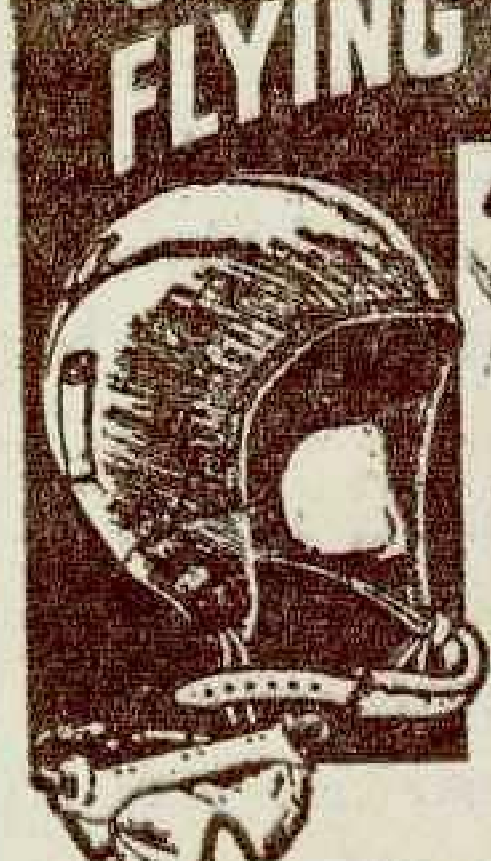

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wrapped tightly around their only weapon. A scout axe. "I'll chase them!" he whispered.

"No, you fool!" Phil said, pulling Harry back. "They're hungry! They'd claw you to pieces before you even got the axe raised above your head!"

"There's only one way," Phil continued as he groped in the darkness for their box of charcoal, "and that's light a fire. They won't come near us as long as we keep it lit!"

This made sense to Harry and they soon had the charcoal fire going nicely. Phil put a pot of water on to boil.

"Might as well have a cup of hot cocoa while we're sitting here. I'm chilly."

"Good idea," Harry agreed. "And some cookies. Uh—they won't come after these, will they, Phil?"

"No, they're safe!" Phil laughed. "Only we better hide the bacon. If they're hungry enough they'll rush us, fire or no fire, as long as they can smell it."

Harry took the bacon, forced it into the mess kit and clamped the lid down tight. He then crawled into the tent and slid the kit under the blankets. This done, he scampered back into the warmth and glare of the fire.

"They'd have to have noses from here to Nevada to smell it now," Harry said as he picked up his cup and wiped it clean with his hand. "How's the cocoa coming?"

"Soon," Phil said. "What did you do with the axe?"

"Right here," Harry said, lifting the hatchet so Phil could see.

"Keep it handy," Phil said, looking over his shoulder. "They're still hanging around. We may have to use it after all."

Phil's concern worried Harry. At any rate it made him more alert and conscious of their real danger. These wild cats were nothing to fool with. Just a week ago they had seen one of them attack a band of river rats and give a very good account of himself.

"I'd hate to have one of those babies around *my* neck!" Phil had said at the time.

The cocoa tasted good. Excellent, in fact, though they couldn't give their whole attention to it what with backward glances and occasional trips into the tent to make sure the bacon was safe.

The hours dragged by. There was no sleep in the boys however, tired as they were. So long as there was darkness, the fire had to be tended to, and a vigilant eye kept open for a sudden rush from the shadows.

It was spooky just sitting there in the stillness . . . waiting . . . waiting. Harry half-hoped something would happen just to get it over with. But, when he looked around again, the eyes were gone. He was about to nudge Phil and whisper the good news when all Hades broke loose!

Harry, white faced, grabbed the hatchet and made a move to get up. Once again, Phil motioned him back. He, too, was scared. The yowling and spitting was horrible to hear.

"It's a fight," Phil whispered. "Probably fighting off a strange prowler! It's none of our affair!"

Soon the hubbub died down and it was more quiet than ever. Phil glanced over at Harry and smiled, anything to break the tension.

"Scared?"

"What do you think?"

"Relax," Phil said. He picked up the box of cookies and passed them. "They may go away now."

"I sure hope so," Harry sighed. He took a handful of the cookies and proceeded to munch on them, hardly able, now, to keep his eyes open.

Finally, in the first gray light preceeding the dawn, when the campers could, by squinting a bit, peer to a safe distance around them, Phil yawned and said, "Looks like we've been snubbed, pal. They're gone!"

"Good riddance!" Harry straightened up and bent a kink out of his back. "I'm going to hit the hay, what there is left of it."

"Check!" Phil yawned again, roughed up his hair with one hand and rubbed his sleep-robbed face. He crawled into the tent and plopped down on his blankets, oblivious of the fact that he was lying on the bacon-filled mess kit, and fell asleep.

Harry made sure the charcoal fire was out and followed suit.

And as the morning sun rose in all its glory, casting the long shadow of the pup tent across the wooden clothesline platform and onto the flat tar paper roof of the brownstone tenement house, the spires of mid-town Manhattan rose around them in all their splendor.

THE END

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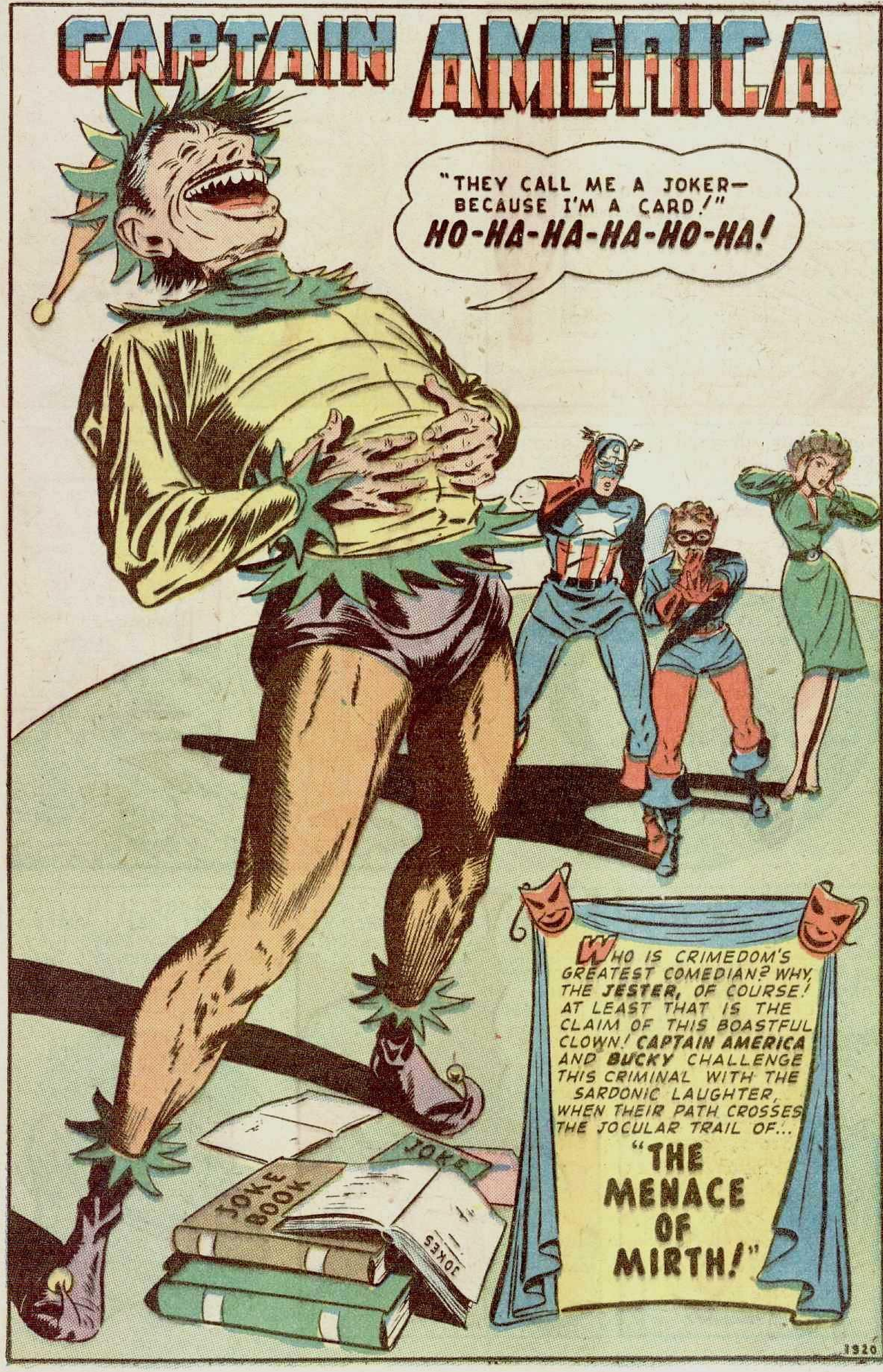
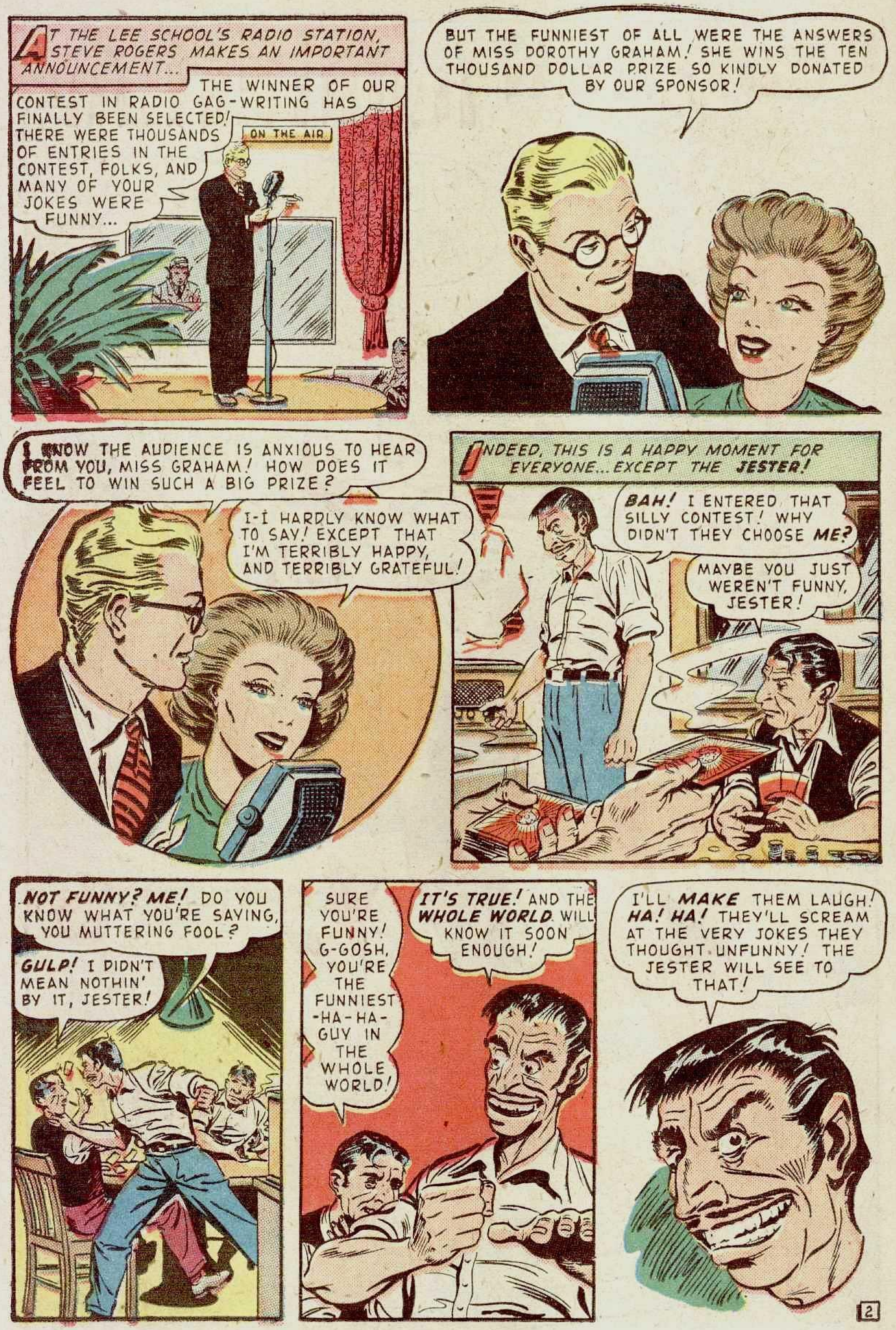
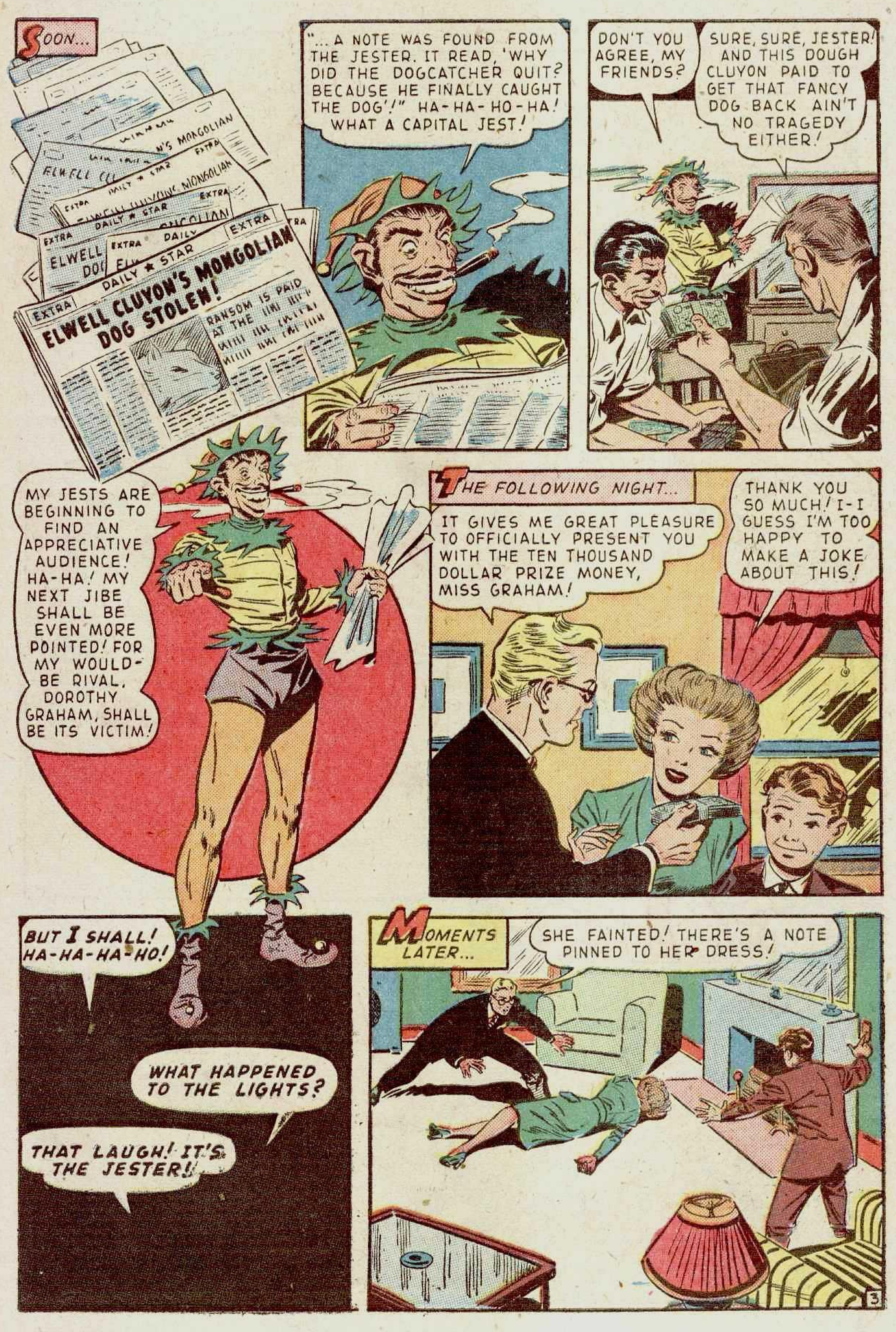
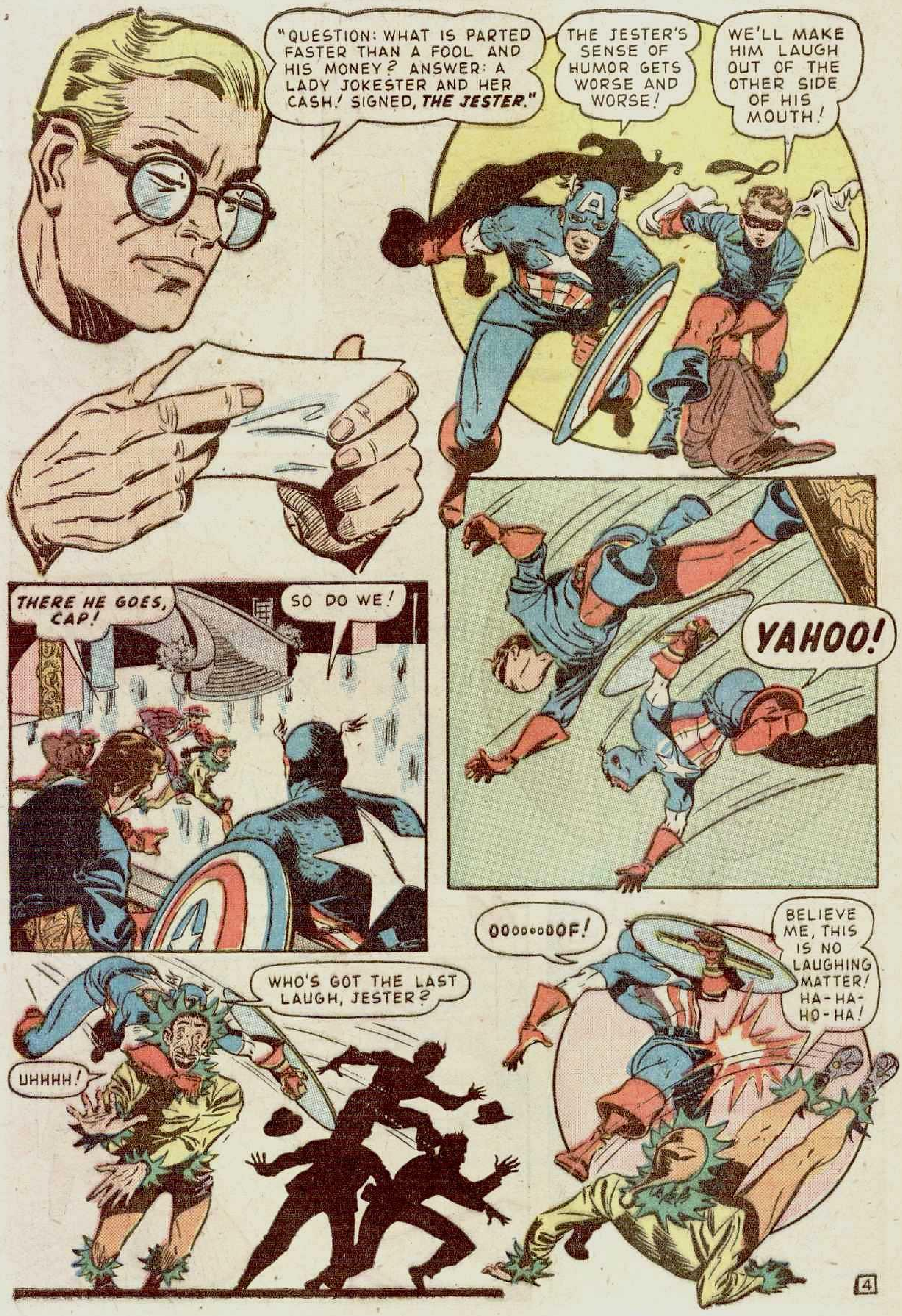
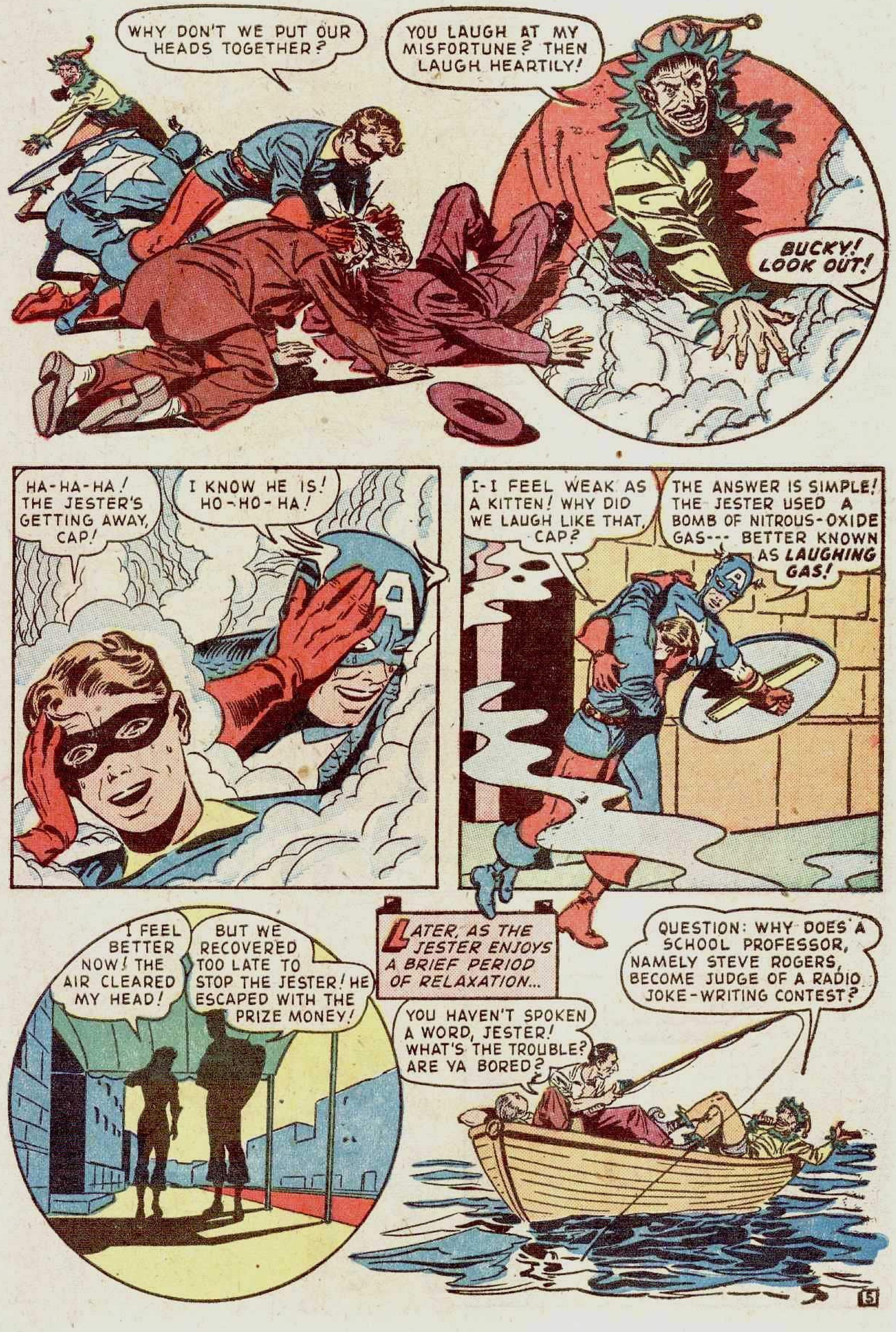
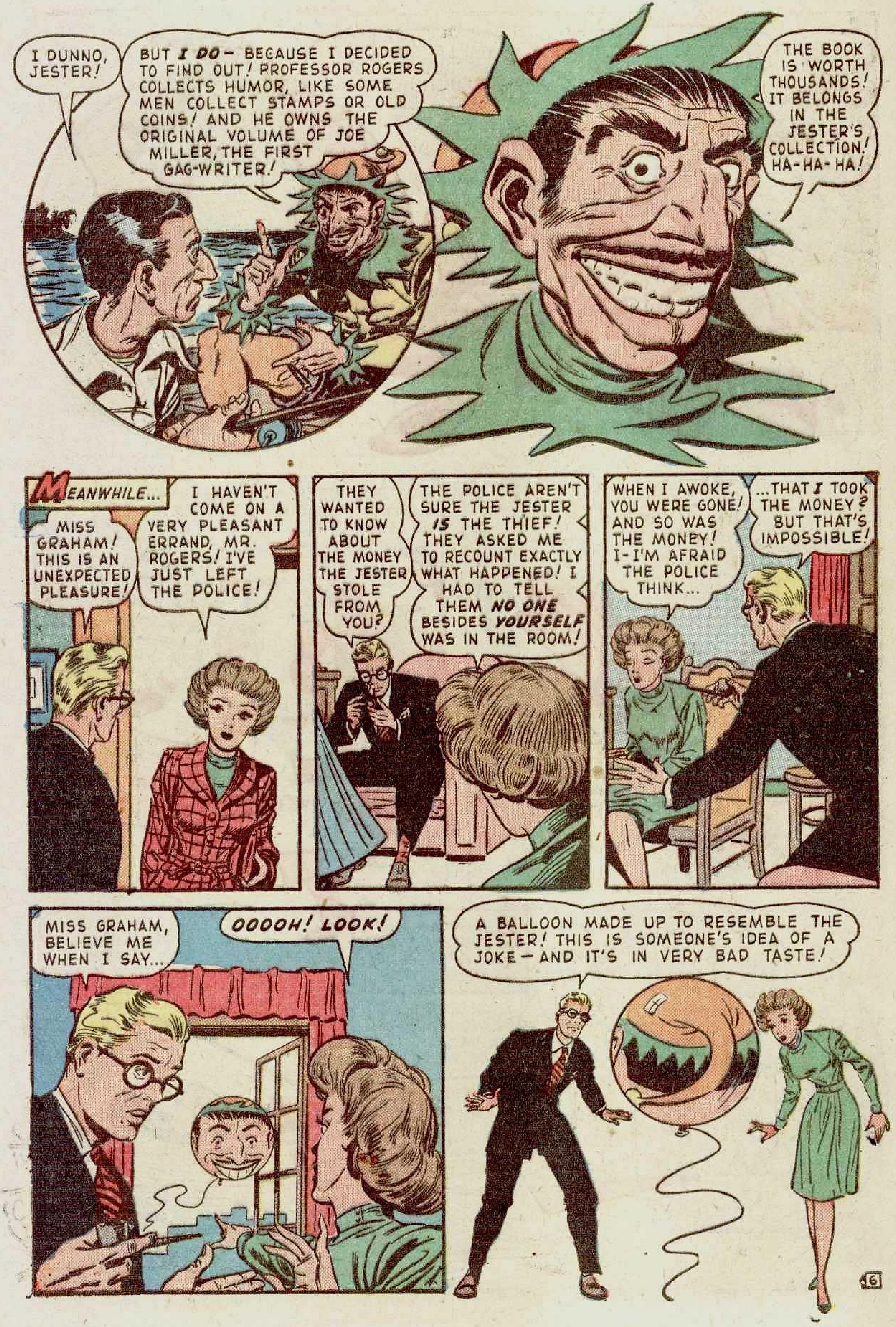

CAPTAIN AMERICA
"THEY CALL ME A JOKER— BECAUSE I'M A CARD!" HO-HA-HA-HA-HO-HA!
JOKE BOOK
JOKES
JOKES
WHO IS CRIMEDOM'S GREATEST COMEDIAN? WHY, THE JESTER, OF COURSE! AT LEAST THAT IS THE CLAIM OF THIS BOASTFUL CLOWN! CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY CHALLENGE THIS CRIMINAL WITH THE SARDONIC LAUGHTER, WHEN THEIR PATH CROSSES THE JOCULAR TRAIL OF...
"THE MENACE OF MIRTH!"
1320

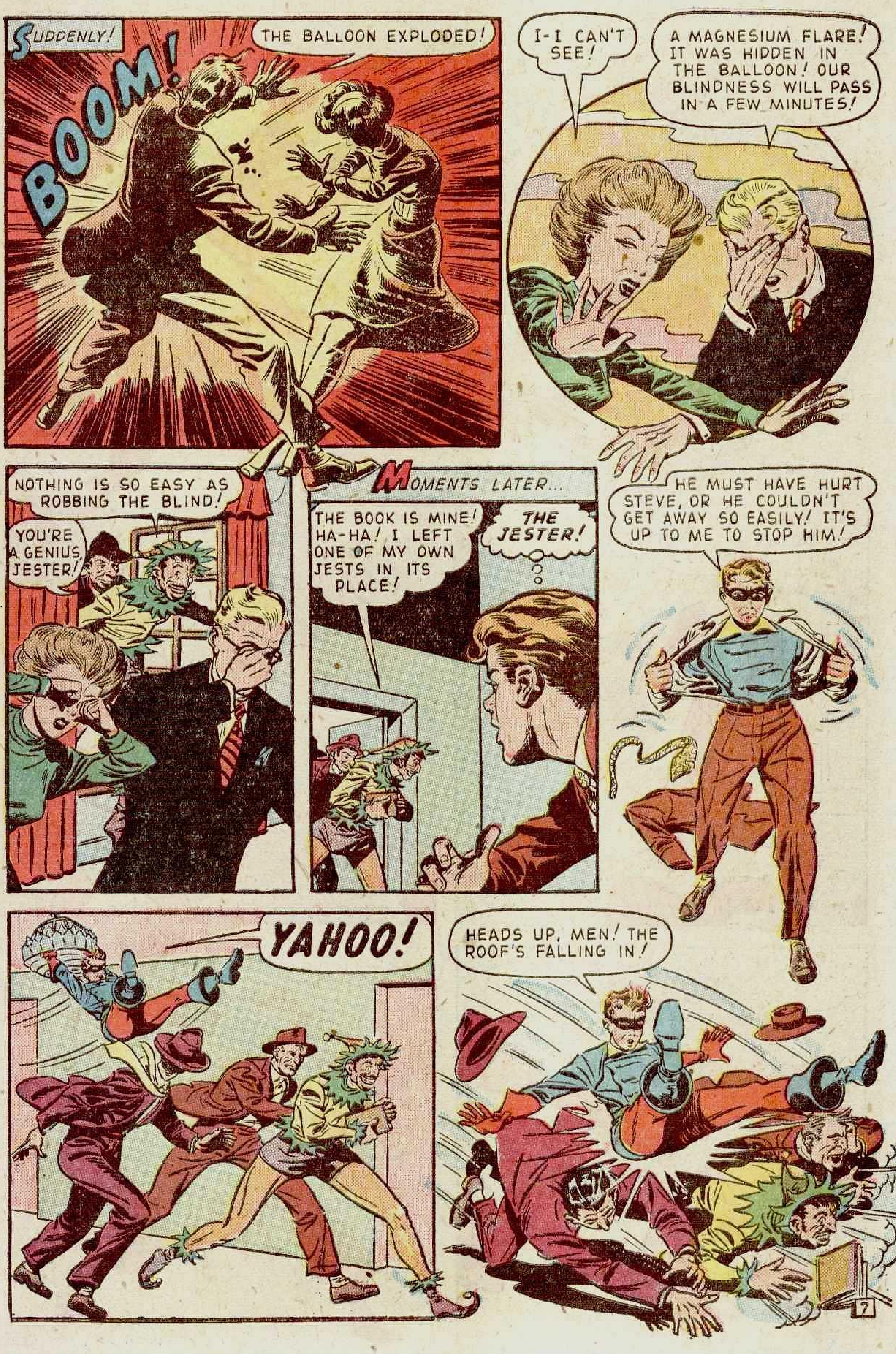

AT THE LEE SCHOOL'S RADIO STATION, STEVE ROGERS MAKES AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT...
THE WINNER OF OUR CONTEST IN RADIO GAG-WRITING HAS FINALLY BEEN SELECTED! THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF ENTRIES IN THE CONTEST, FOLKS, AND MANY OF YOUR JOKES WERE FUNNY...
ON THE AIR
BUT THE FUNNIEST OF ALL WERE THE ANSWERS OF MISS DOROTHY GRAHAM! SHE WINS THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR PRIZE SO KINDLY DONATED BY OUR SPONSOR!
I KNOW THE AUDIENCE IS ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM YOU, MISS GRAHAM! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO WIN SUCH A BIG PRIZE?
I-I HARDLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY! EXCEPT THAT I'M TERRIBLY HAPPY, AND TERRIBLY GRATEFUL!
INDEED, THIS IS A HAPPY MOMENT FOR EVERYONE... EXCEPT THE JESTER!
BAH! I ENTERED THAT SILLY CONTEST! WHY DIDN'T THEY CHOOSE ME?
MAYBE YOU JUST WEREN'T FUNNY, JESTER!
NOT FUNNY? ME! DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, YOU MUTTERING FOOL?
GULP! I DIDN'T MEAN NOTHIN' BY IT, JESTER!
SURE YOU'RE FUNNY! G-GOSH, YOU'RE THE FUNNIEST -HA-HA- GUY IN THE WHOLE WORLD!
IT'S TRUE! AND THE WHOLE WORLD WILL KNOW IT SOON ENOUGH!
I'LL MAKE THEM LAUGH! HA! HA! THEY'LL SCREAM AT THE VERY JOKES THEY THOUGHT UNFUNNY! THE JESTER WILL SEE TO THAT!

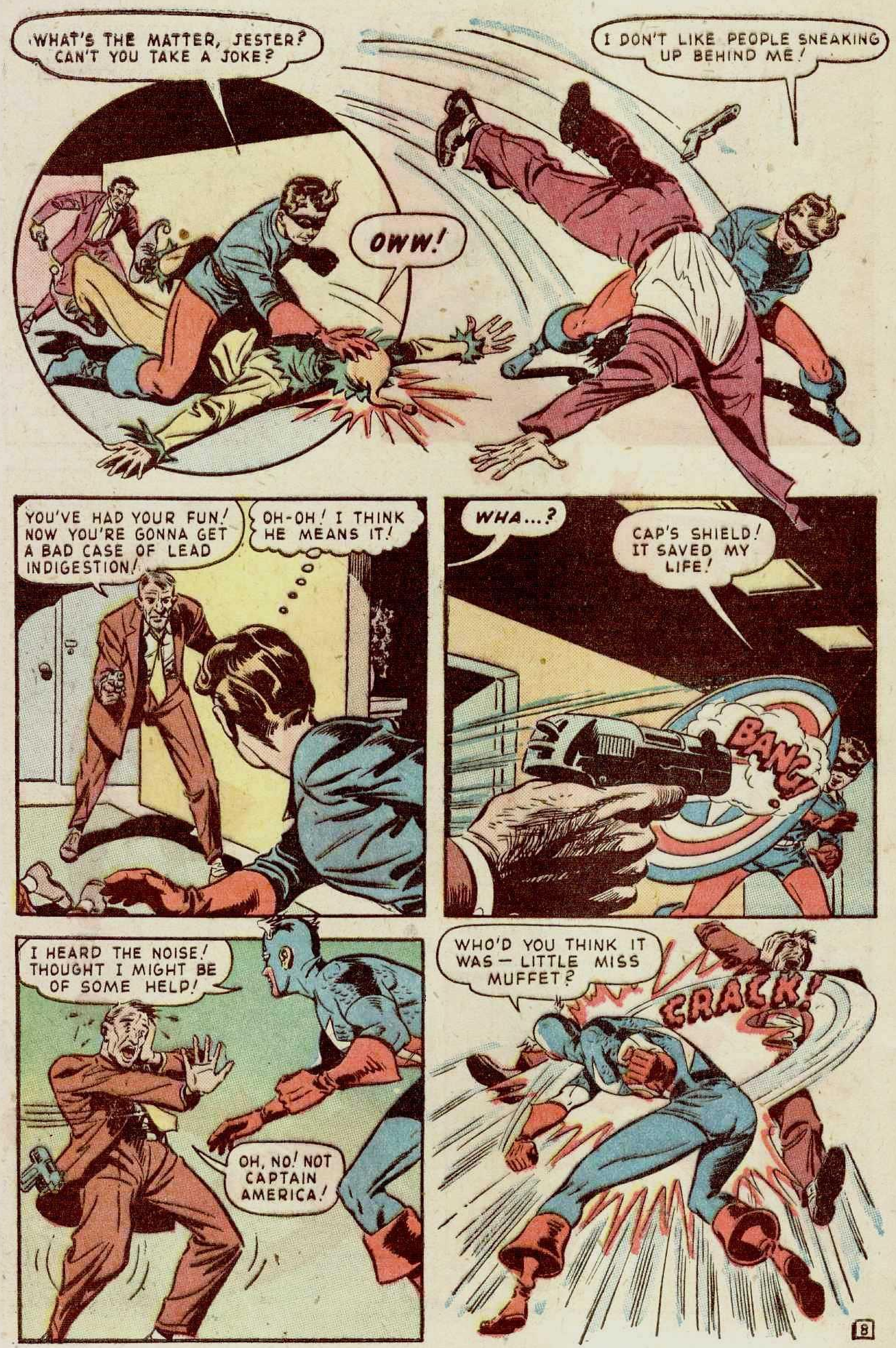

SOON...
EXTRA DAILY ★ STAR
ELWELL CLUYON'S MONGOLIAN DOG STOLEN!
RANSOM IS PAID AT THE
"... A NOTE WAS FOUND FROM THE JESTER. IT READ, 'WHY DID THE DOGCATCHER QUIT? BECAUSE HE FINALLY CAUGHT THE DOG'!" HA-HA-HO-HA! WHAT A CAPITAL JEST!
DON'T YOU AGREE, MY FRIENDS?
SURE, SURE, JESTER! AND THIS DOUGH CLUYON PAID TO GET THAT FANCY DOG BACK AIN'T NO TRAGEDY EITHER!
MY JESTS ARE BEGINNING TO FIND AN APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE! HA-HA! MY NEXT JIBE SHALL BE EVEN MORE POINTED! FOR MY WOULD-BE RIVAL, DOROTHY GRAHAM, SHALL BE ITS VICTIM!
THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...
IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO OFFICIALLY PRESENT YOU WITH THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR PRIZE MONEY, MISS GRAHAM!
THANK YOU SO MUCH! I-I GUESS I'M TOO HAPPY TO MAKE A JOKE ABOUT THIS!
BUT I SHALL! HA-HA-HA-HO!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LIGHTS?
THAT LAUGH! IT'S THE JESTER!
MOMENTS LATER...
SHE FAINTED! THERE'S A NOTE PINNED TO HER DRESS!


"QUESTION: WHAT IS PARTED FASTER THAN A FOOL AND HIS MONEY? ANSWER: A LADY JOKESTER AND HER CASH! SIGNED, THE JESTER."
THE JESTER'S SENSE OF HUMOR GETS WORSE AND WORSE!
WE'LL MAKE HIM LAUGH OUT OF THE OTHER SIDE OF HIS MOUTH!
THERE HE GOES, CAP!
SO DO WE!
YAHOO!
WHO'S GOT THE LAST LAUGH, JESTER?
UHHHH!
OOOOOOOF!
BELIEVE ME, THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER! HA-HA-HO-HA!

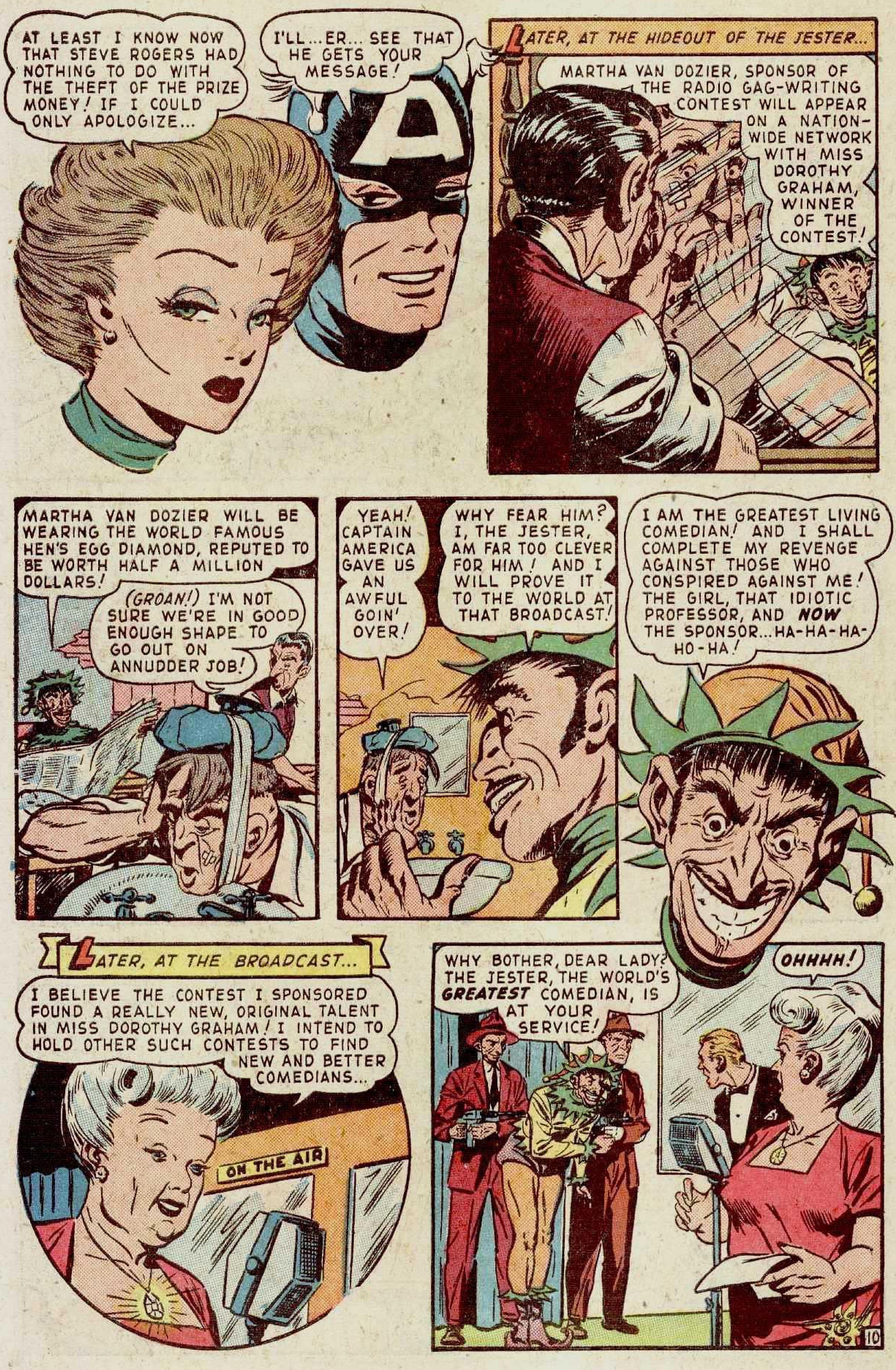

WHY DON'T WE PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER?
YOU LAUGH AT MY MISFORTUNE? THEN LAUGH HEARTILY!
BUCKY! LOOK OUT!
HA-HA-HA! THE JESTER'S GETTING AWAY, CAP!
I KNOW HE IS! HO-HO-HA!
I-I FEEL WEAK AS A KITTEN! WHY DID WE LAUGH LIKE THAT, CAP?
THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE! THE JESTER USED A BOMB OF NITROUS-OXIDE GAS--- BETTER KNOWN AS LAUGHING GAS!
I FEEL BETTER NOW! THE AIR CLEARED MY HEAD!
BUT WE RECOVERED TOO LATE TO STOP THE JESTER! HE ESCAPED WITH THE PRIZE MONEY!
LATER, AS THE JESTER ENJOYS A BRIEF PERIOD OF RELAXATION...
QUESTION: WHY DOES A SCHOOL PROFESSOR, NAMELY STEVE ROGERS, BECOME JUDGE OF A RADIO JOKE-WRITING CONTEST?
YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN A WORD, JESTER! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE? ARE YA BORED?


I DUNNO, JESTER!
BUT *I DO*– BECAUSE I DECIDED TO FIND OUT! PROFESSOR ROGERS COLLECTS HUMOR, LIKE SOME MEN COLLECT STAMPS OR OLD COINS! AND HE OWNS THE ORIGINAL VOLUME OF JOE MILLER, THE FIRST GAG-WRITER!
THE BOOK IS WORTH THOUSANDS! IT BELONGS IN THE JESTER'S COLLECTION! HA-HA-HA!
MEANWHILE...
MISS GRAHAM! THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE!
I HAVEN'T COME ON A VERY PLEASANT ERRAND, MR. ROGERS! I'VE JUST LEFT THE POLICE!
THEY WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE MONEY THE JESTER STOLE FROM YOU?
THE POLICE AREN'T SURE THE JESTER *IS* THE THIEF! THEY ASKED ME TO RECOUNT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED! I HAD TO TELL THEM **NO ONE** BESIDES **YOURSELF** WAS IN THE ROOM!
WHEN I AWOKE, YOU WERE GONE! AND SO WAS THE MONEY! I-I'M AFRAID THE POLICE THINK...
...THAT *I* TOOK THE MONEY? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
MISS GRAHAM, BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY...
OOOOH! LOOK!
A BALLOON MADE UP TO RESEMBLE THE JESTER! THIS IS SOMEONE'S IDEA OF A JOKE – AND IT'S IN VERY BAD TASTE!

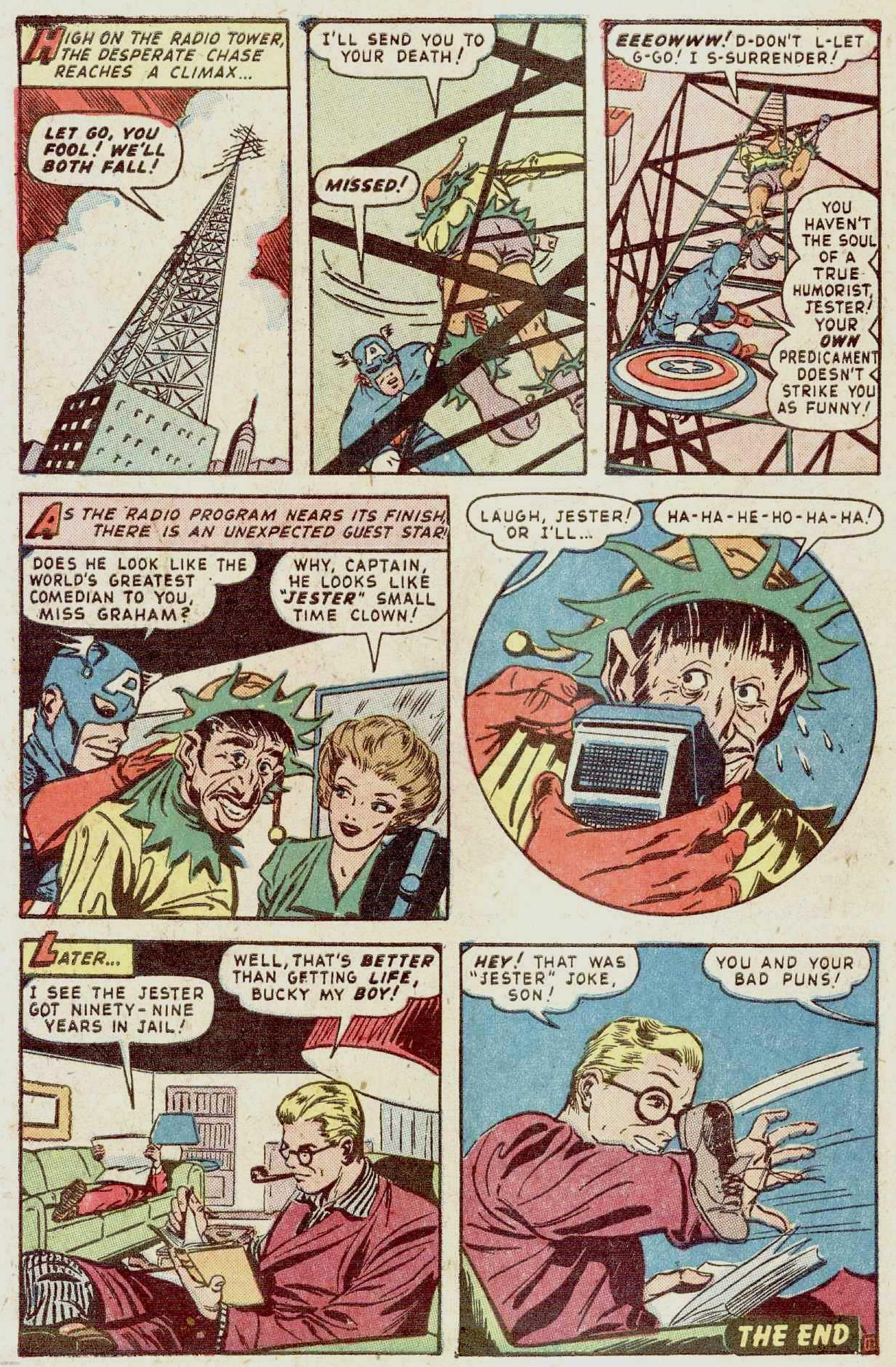

SUDDENLY!
THE BALLOON EXPLODED!
BOOM!
I-I CAN'T SEE!
A MAGNESIUM FLARE! IT WAS HIDDEN IN THE BALLOON! OUR BLINDNESS WILL PASS IN A FEW MINUTES!
NOTHING IS SO EASY AS ROBBING THE BLIND!
YOU'RE A GENIUS, JESTER!
MOMENTS LATER...
THE BOOK IS MINE! HA-HA! I LEFT ONE OF MY OWN JESTS IN ITS PLACE!
THE JESTER!
HE MUST HAVE HURT STEVE, OR HE COULDN'T GET AWAY SO EASILY! IT'S UP TO ME TO STOP HIM!
YAHOO!
HEADS UP, MEN! THE ROOF'S FALLING IN!

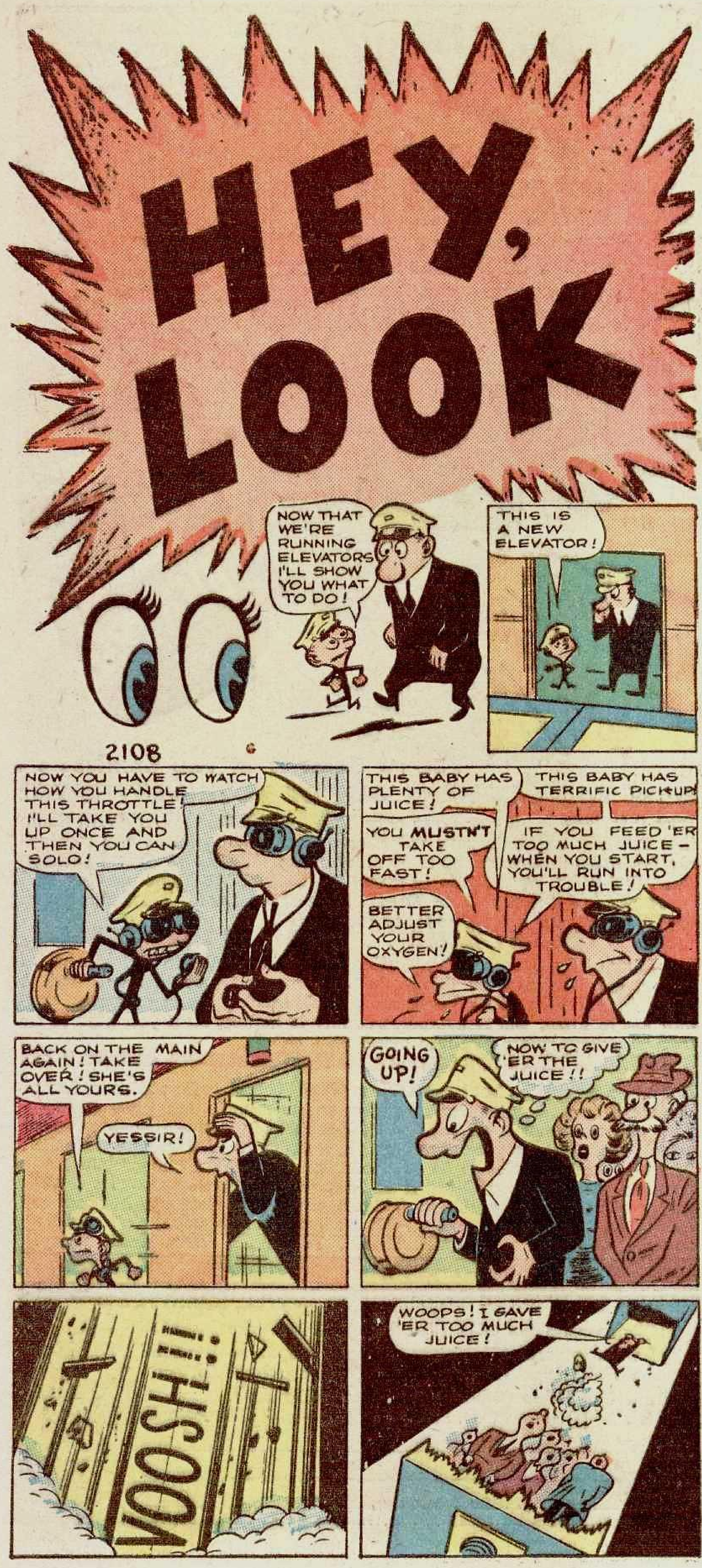

WHAT'S THE MATTER, JESTER? CAN'T YOU TAKE A JOKE?
OWW!
I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE SNEAKING UP BEHIND ME!
YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN! NOW YOU'RE GONNA GET A BAD CASE OF LEAD INDIGESTION!
OH-OH! I THINK HE MEANS IT!
WHA...?
CAP'S SHIELD! IT SAVED MY LIFE!
BANG!
I HEARD THE NOISE! THOUGHT I MIGHT BE OF SOME HELP!
OH, NO! NOT CAPTAIN AMERICA!
WHO'D YOU THINK IT WAS—LITTLE MISS MUFFET?
CRACK!

BUT THE JESTER RECOVERS, AND...
WATCH OUT, BUCKY!
UHHHH!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT!
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR?
WELL, I HAVEN'T! HA-HA-HO! STILL GET FUN OUT OF A SITUATION LIKE THIS ONE!
EEEOWW!
A BRIEF MINUTE LATER...
OO-OWW! MUST'VE LANDED ON THE BACK OF MY HEAD! IT KNOCKED ME COLD FOR A SPELL!
I-I'M ALL RIGHT, CAP! JUST ANGRY AT MYSELF FOR LETTING THE JESTER ESCAPE!
I CAN SEE NOW! STEVE ROGERS RECOVERED FIRST, AND SAID HE WAS GOING FOR HELP!
BUT SO FAR, THE JESTER HAS BEEN ONE STEP AHEAD OF EVERYONE! WHY DON'T YOU STOP WAITING FOR HIS MOVE AND SET A TRAP OF YOUR OWN?
A GOOD IDEA! YOU HAVE BRAINS AS WELL AS BEAUTY, MISS GRAHAM!
HERE'S THE JESTER'S CALLING CARD! "KNOW WHAT THE MAN SAID WHEN A FRIEND OFFERED TO LEND HIM A BOOK? 'I DON'T NEED A BOOK! I ALREADY HAVE ONE.'"
THAT GUY'S HUMOR SLAYS ME!


AT LEAST I KNOW NOW THAT STEVE ROGERS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE THEFT OF THE PRIZE MONEY! IF I COULD ONLY APOLOGIZE...
I'LL... ER... SEE THAT HE GETS YOUR MESSAGE!
LATER, AT THE HIDEOUT OF THE JESTER...
MARTHA VAN DOZIER, SPONSOR OF THE RADIO GAG-WRITING CONTEST WILL APPEAR ON A NATION-WIDE NETWORK WITH MISS DOROTHY GRAHAM, WINNER OF THE CONTEST!
MARTHA VAN DOZIER WILL BE WEARING THE WORLD FAMOUS HEN'S EGG DIAMOND, REPUTED TO BE WORTH HALF A MILLION DOLLARS!
(GROAN!) I'M NOT SURE WE'RE IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO GO OUT ON ANNUDDER JOB!
YEAH! CAPTAIN AMERICA GAVE US AN AWFUL GOIN' OVER!
WHY FEAR HIM? I, THE JESTER, AM FAR TOO CLEVER FOR HIM! AND I WILL PROVE IT TO THE WORLD AT THAT BROADCAST!
I AM THE GREATEST LIVING COMEDIAN! AND I SHALL COMPLETE MY REVENGE AGAINST THOSE WHO CONSPIRED AGAINST ME! THE GIRL, THAT IDIOTIC PROFESSOR, AND NOW THE SPONSOR... HA-HA-HA-HO-HA!
LATER, AT THE BROADCAST...
I BELIEVE THE CONTEST I SPONSORED FOUND A REALLY NEW, ORIGINAL TALENT IN MISS DOROTHY GRAHAM! I INTEND TO HOLD OTHER SUCH CONTESTS TO FIND NEW AND BETTER COMEDIANS...
ON THE AIR
WHY BOTHER, DEAR LADY? THE JESTER, THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMEDIAN, IS AT YOUR SERVICE!
OHHHH!

I'LL TAKE THIS! THE FAMED HEN'S EGG DIAMOND, I BELIEVE! I'VE JUST THE JOKE TO MATCH SUCH A THEFT!
HA-HA! WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD? TO FIND THE HEN'S EGG DIAMOND—ULP! WHAT'S THAT?
YAHOO!
IT'S A TRAP AND I FELL FOR IT!
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
LOSING YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR?
GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU DEVIL!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY, JESTER! THIS IS THE SHOWDOWN!


HIGH ON THE RADIO TOWER, THE DESPERATE CHASE REACHES A CLIMAX...
LET GO, YOU FOOL! WE'LL BOTH FALL!
I'LL SEND YOU TO YOUR DEATH!
MISSED!
EEEOWWW! D-DON'T L-LET G-GO! I S-SURRENDER!
YOU HAVEN'T THE SOUL OF A TRUE HUMORIST, JESTER! YOUR OWN PREDICAMENT DOESN'T STRIKE YOU AS FUNNY!
AS THE RADIO PROGRAM NEARS ITS FINISH, THERE IS AN UNEXPECTED GUEST STAR!
DOES HE LOOK LIKE THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMEDIAN TO YOU, MISS GRAHAM?
WHY, CAPTAIN, HE LOOKS LIKE "JESTER" SMALL TIME CLOWN!
LAUGH, JESTER! OR I'LL...
HA-HA-HE-HO-HA-HA!
LATER...
I SEE THE JESTER GOT NINETY-NINE YEARS IN JAIL!
WELL, THAT'S BETTER THAN GETTING LIFE, BUCKY MY BOY!
HEY! THAT WAS "JESTER" JOKE, SON!
YOU AND YOUR BAD PUNS!
THE END


HEY, LOOK
NOW THAT WE'RE RUNNING ELEVATORS I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT TO DO!
THIS IS A NEW ELEVATOR!
2108
NOW YOU HAVE TO WATCH HOW YOU HANDLE THIS THROTTLE! I'LL TAKE YOU UP ONCE AND THEN YOU CAN SOLO!
THIS BABY HAS PLENTY OF JUICE!
THIS BABY HAS TERRIFIC PICK-UP!
YOU MUSTN'T TAKE OFF TOO FAST!
IF YOU FEED 'ER TOO MUCH JUICE - WHEN YOU START, YOU'LL RUN INTO TROUBLE!
BETTER ADJUST YOUR OXYGEN!
BACK ON THE MAIN AGAIN! TAKE OVER! SHE'S ALL YOURS.
YESSIR!
GOING UP!
NOW TO GIVE 'ER THE JUICE!!
VOOSH!!!
WOOPS! I GAVE 'ER TOO MUCH JUICE!

BAD SKIN?

Pimples, Blackheads and Other Externally Caused Blemishes...

Try Skin Doctor's Amazingly Simple Directions And Be Thrilled With The Difference—Often

CLEARED IN ONE SHORT WEEK

"You may see a marvelous skin *improvement* with the double Viderm treatment," says Betty Memphis, famous Beauty Consultant, "all *in 7 days!*"

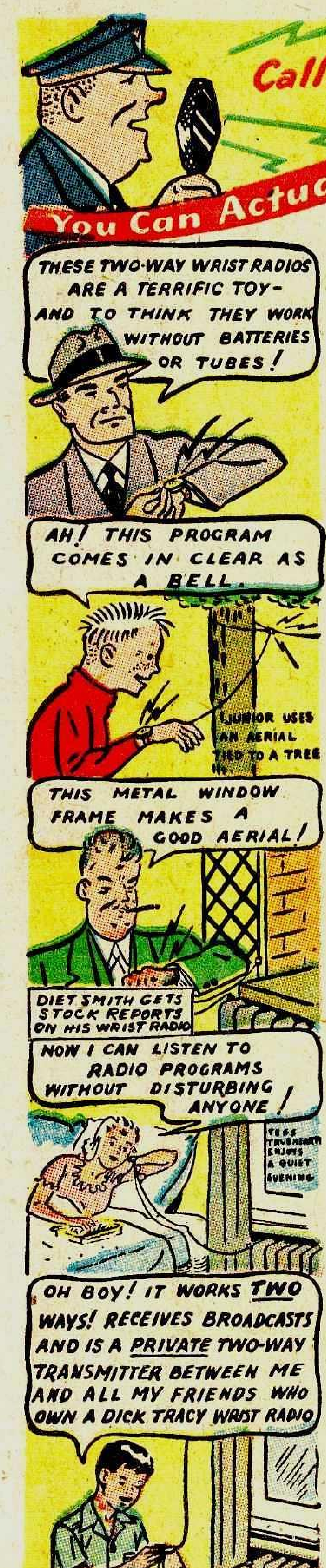
Yes, a healthy, glowing, lovely skin . . . *plus* the romance, dates, and popularity that follow girls without pimples, blackheads, and other externally caused blemishes . . . *in 1 week!* In that short time, your skin, (which is basically the same as lovely screen stars' and models') may glow in its natural, true beauty! Just follow Miss Memphis' simple directions!

HERE'S HOW! "Like thousands of others, your skin may be soft, smooth, loveable with a Skin Doctor's prescription, the *double Viderm Treatment.* Consisting of 2 formulas, the first, Viderm Skin Cleanser, penetrates and acts as an antiseptic on your pores. The second, Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream, leaves an almost invisible protective covering on your skin. Both work gently, thoroughly, bringing undreamed of beauty to you! Use the double Viderm treatment daily until your skin is smoother and clearer . . . then only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks. This helps prevent blackheads as well as externally caused skin miseries and pimples."

Just mail your name and address to Betty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept. 239, New York 2, N. Y. By return mail you will receive the doctor's directions, and both jars, packed in a safety-sealed carton. On delivery, pay two dollars plus postage. If you wish, you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter. If you are in any way dissatisfied, your money will be cheerfully refunded. To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven the Viderm double treatment is, it may interest you to know that, up to this month, over two hundred and twelve thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see the thousands of happy, grateful letters that have come to me as a result, you would know the joy this simple treatment can bring. And, think of it!—the treatment must work for *you*, or it doesn't cost you a cent.

Calling All DICK TRACY Fans!

You Can Actually SEND and RECEIVE With This


THESE TWO-WAY WRIST RADIOS ARE A TERRIFIC TOY— AND TO THINK THEY WORK WITHOUT BATTERIES OR TUBES!
AH! THIS PROGRAM COMES IN CLEAR AS A BELL.
JUNIOR USES AN AERIAL TIED TO A TREE
THIS METAL WINDOW FRAME MAKES A GOOD AERIAL!
DIET SMITH GETS STOCK REPORTS ON HIS WRIST RADIO
NOW I CAN LISTEN TO RADIO PROGRAMS WITHOUT DISTURBING ANYONE!
TESS TRUEHEART ENJOYS A QUIET EVENING
OH BOY! IT WORKS TWO WAYS! RECEIVES BROADCASTS AND IS A PRIVATE TWO-WAY TRANSMITTER BETWEEN ME AND ALL MY FRIENDS WHO OWN A DICK TRACY WRIST RADIO

Genuine DICK TRACY RECEIVES TWO-WAY TRANSMITS WRIST RADIO

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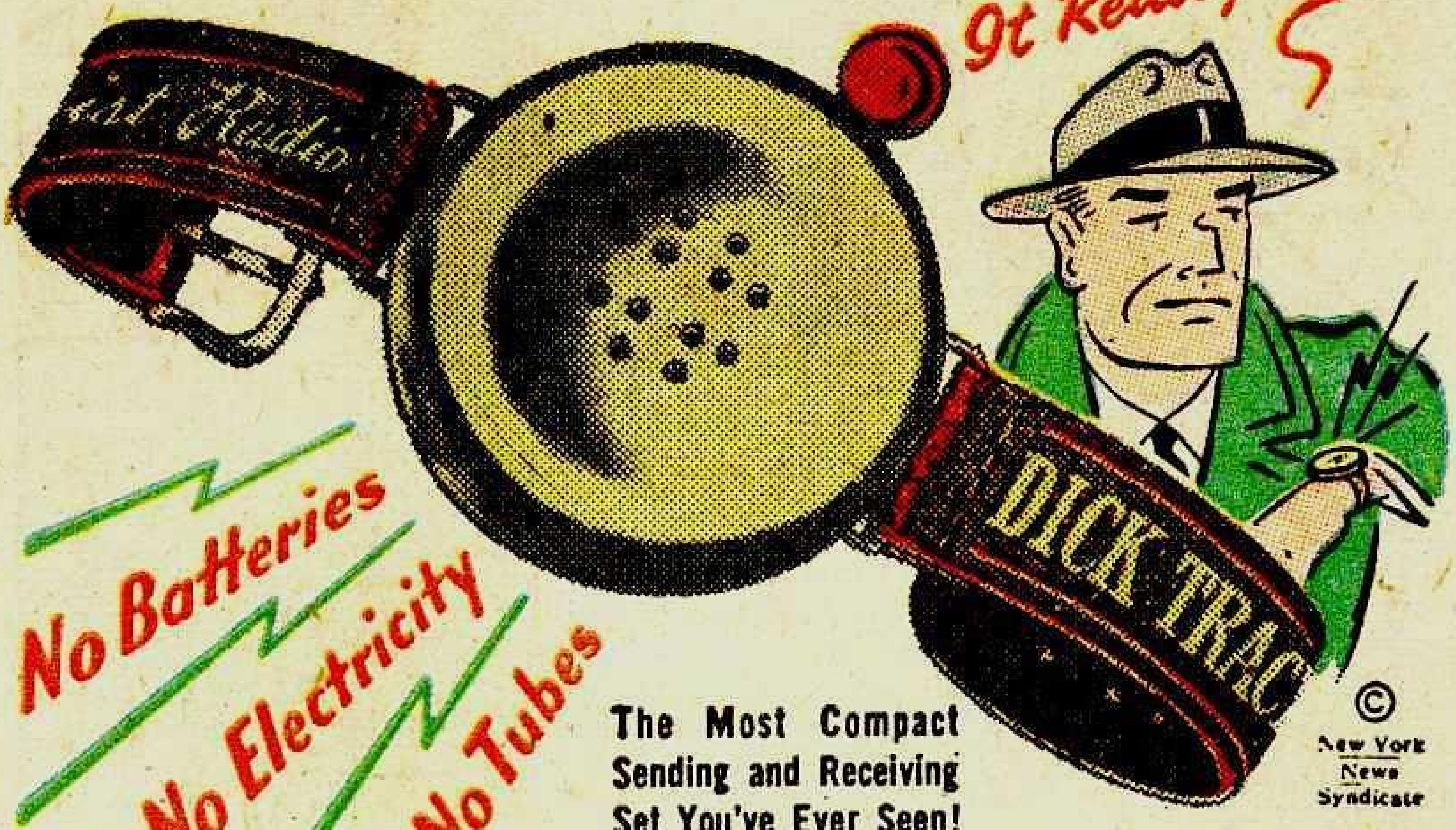
It Really Works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No Tubes

The Most Compact Sending and Receiving Set You've Ever Seen!

You've Seen It In The Comics . . .

NOW YOU CAN HAVE ONE OF YOUR VERY OWN!

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WEAR IT LIKE ANY WATCH . . . LISTEN IN LIKE ANY RADIO

Just think of the fun you'll have using it . . . listening in to ball games . . . getting the low-down on things the very moment they happen. With a DICK TRACY *TWO-WAY* Wrist Radio you'll quickly become the most popular kid in town. But remember, quantity is limited, so if you want to be sure of getting yours you had better ACT NOW!

USES *RADAR DETECTOR* SIMILAR TO THAT DEVELOPED DURING WAR!

Not just a dream . . . but a scientific reality! At last, radio engineers have developed a combination radio receiver and telephonic transmitter so compact you can wear it on your wrist. Specially built-in earphone assures private reception for your ears alone, and powerful RADAR detector pulls in far-off stations. Comes to you complete with aerial and ground connections. Order one and use it to listen to radio stations. Order TWO and you'll actually be able to transmit your voice from one building to another with amazing results. Get on the road to popularity! Amaze friends! Send for your DICK TRACY *TWO-WAY* Wrist Radio *today!*

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☐ I want to receive *and transmit* to a friend. Please send me *TWO* Dick Tracy Wrist Radios for only $7.96

CHECK ONE ☐ Ship postpaid. I am enclosing cash.
☐ Ship C.O.D. I'll pay postman total plus postage.

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Residents of Illinois include 2% State Tax. Price in Canada add 50c. No C.O.D.'s

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UP TO 5 lbs. A WEEK

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Feel full of pep and energy. Overcome that tired feeling this Doctor Approved Way!

REDUCE 10-20-30-LBS.

AND IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH! WE GUARANTEE THESE STATEMENTS OR YOU DON'T PAY A PENNY!

Don't be denied a beautiful, attractive figure. Lose ugly excess fat easily, quickly, pleasantly, safely—we guarantee it! KELPIDINE does the work with little effort on your part, is ABSOLUTELY HARMLESS and supplies a food mineral which is VITAL for balanced nutrition. KELPIDINE IS GOOD FOR YOU! It decreases your appetite, gives you more energy, vitality and vigor. YOU'LL ENJOY REDUCING THIS WAY! Proven results are shown quickly. Many report losing 15, 20, 30 pounds and even more in a few short weeks. With KELPIDINE, ugly fat and extra inches seem to disappear like magic. Kelpidine (fucus) is the only known food product listed in medical dictionaries as an ANTI-FAT, AND AS AN AID IN REDUCING. A United States Government Agency classifies KELPIDINE as a food. It is safe and brings remarkable results quickly and easily.

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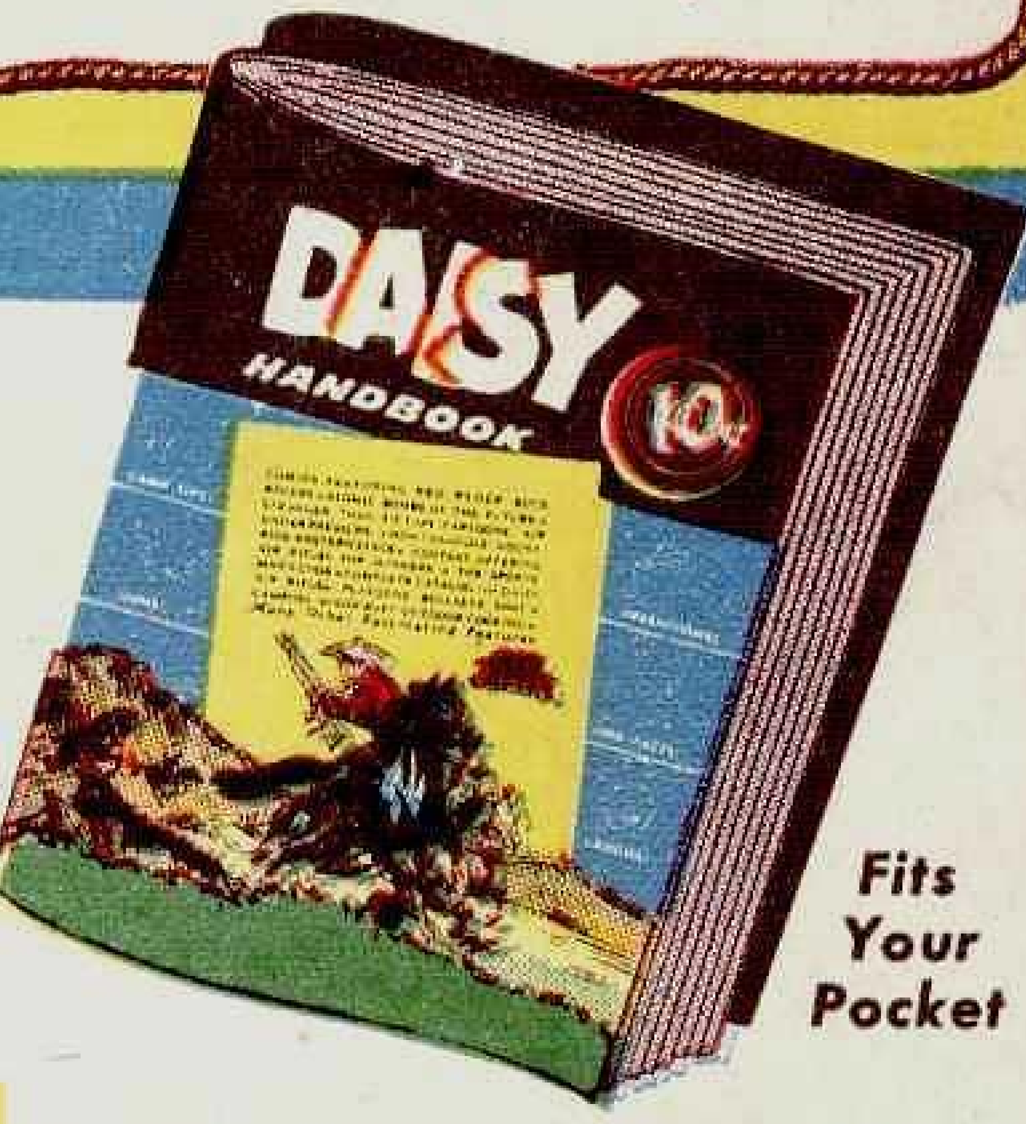

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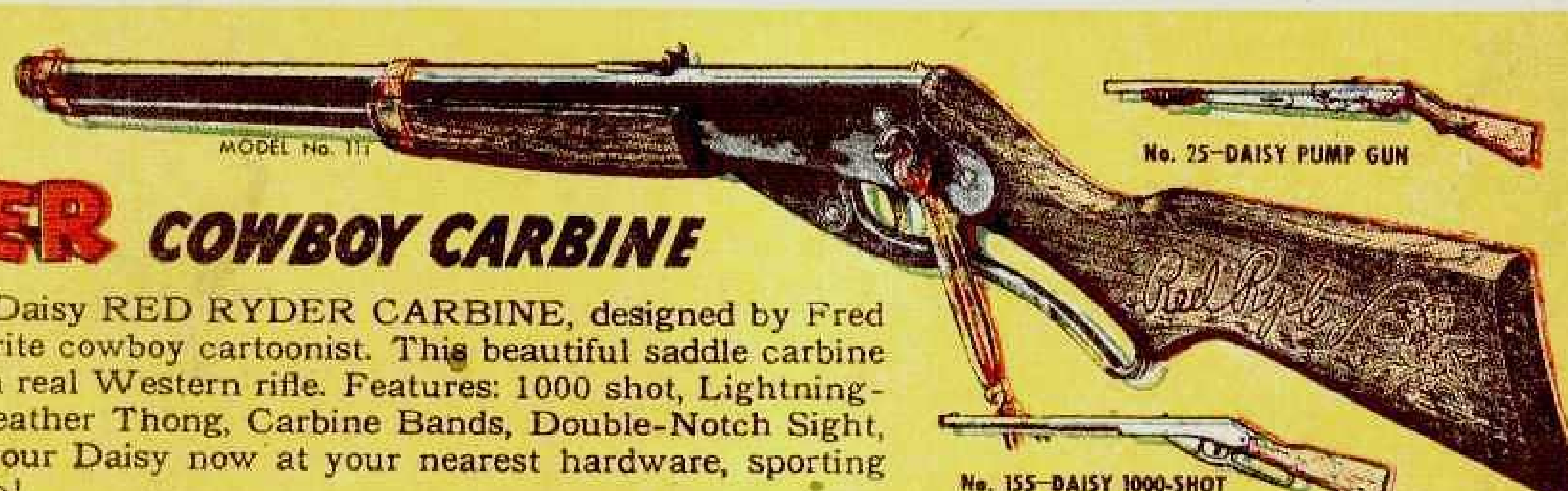

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